



# Courtside

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE KOORYONG LAWN TENNIS CLUB INC. FEBRUARY 2021



# 50

**Not To  
Be Missed**

*The 50th Annual  
Members' Club  
Championships*





• KOORYONG LAWN TENNIS CLUB INC. •

# Welcome Back!

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**H**appy New Year to the Members and staff at Kooyong and let's hope that 2021 doesn't give us as many challenges as the last twelve months. Covid continues to cause us all grief and my heart goes out to those that have not been able to connect with their loved ones over the last 10 months.

The building and car park are nearing completion and we expect to get a handover early in the new year. Kooyong has slowly but surely returned to normal subject to government restrictions and I thank the members for their forbearance and patience.

It seems strange to be starting January without the Kooyong Classic, but I am confident our decision to not hold the event in 2021 was the right decision for the Club and plans are underway to improve the event and certainly the new facilities will mean that there will be a good deal less impact on member facilities in the future. We are supporting the efforts of Tennis Australia and we have a contingent of the Australian men and women players training at Kooyong in preparation for the Australian Open.



## It was heartening to see Members retain their membership of the Club despite the restrictions imposed...

It was heartening to see Members retain their membership of the Club despite the restrictions imposed and like most Members I realised its importance to me when it was not available "on demand". The booking system has had positive feedback and has enabled the Club to manage our obligation for accounting for who is here at any given point.

At the time of writing, we have heard nothing from the Level Crossing Authority so nothing further to report to Members. The warmer weather seems to have arrived at last and the courts are in magnificent condition as are all the facilities so hope to see you all at Kooyong enjoying the facilities of one of the greatest Clubs in the world.



**Peter Carew, President**





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## Kooyong: Beyond 2020

Our builder has achieved good progress with our Kooyong - Beyond 2020 project.

“... the courts are in magnificent condition, as are all the facilities, so hope to see you all at Kooyong...”

Peter Carew, President

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## 2021 Club Championships

Excitement is ripe for the highly anticipated 50th annual Club Championships.



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## Premier League

Kooyong's men's Premier League team were crowned Champions of the 2020 season.



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**CEO'S REPORT****Welcome to 2021 at the Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club.**

We look forward to a year which offers much promise following the challenges of COVID that dominated our Club and the entire community over the past year.

We begin the year still subject to some government and practices restrictions but are heading back to normal times. Tennis, squash, gymnasium, swimming and hospitality are all available to enjoy again and changes being signalled will see other areas including function areas offered soon.

We will continue to exercise due care and act responsibly in the interests of the safety of Members, guests and staff and maximise opportunities for everyone to enjoy.

This edition of Courtside provides a number of reports from our Club sections which details plans for events and functions being arranged for the year ahead. Clearly, we can look forward to a wonderful year in 2021. Numbers confirmed for Club Championships for tennis and squash are building strongly and we will once again see some great competition throughout February.

It was regrettable that the annual Kooyong Classic had to be cancelled in 2021, however the extension of tournament agreements will ensure the event will return in 2022, buoyed by the facilities that will be available following completion of our construction project.

Despite some impact on construction due to COVID during the past year, it is pleasing to note our builders are working toward a completion of the "Kooyong - Beyond 2020" project, early in the year. The completed work will provide wonderful facilities for Members to enjoy and another reason to look ahead with optimism for the year ahead.


**Chris Brown, CEO**



# Beyond 2020

Despite the obvious disruptions caused to the community over the last twelve months by COVID-19, our builder Ireland Brown Constructions has progressed the Kooyong- Beyond 2020 project for both the clubhouse extension and car park construction.







**W**e enter 2021 eagerly anticipating the impending completion and subsequent handover of the project to enjoy.

The sight from both the street and the courts highlights how the clubhouse provides a magnificent connection of the building extension to the stadium, and we look forward to being able to experience the feature views that our new room at ground level will offer with outlooks to both the stadium courts to the north and our grass courts to the west from the room and terraces.

Our gymnasium was fitted out during the last year with new Precor cardio equipment and when the hoardings are removed after the handover from our builder, Members will enjoy a much larger exercise space overcoming the congestion which is sometimes experienced in the current room. In addition, the purposely designed acoustic floor will better manage issues including noise and vibration created by cardio equipment or when weights are dropped.









## New roadways and car parking continue to be constructed and we will achieve a significant benefit from the additional spaces that the project will provide.

Our squash group will be pleased to enjoy two glass backed courts with one featuring seating to allow show court matches to be carried out in the days to come. The facilities that are being extended into the new area include change room facilities to serve the needs of this active group.

New roadways and car parking continue to be constructed and we will achieve a significant benefit from the additional spaces that the project will provide. Our temporary arrangements for parking will continue until the handover after which time, work will be carried out in preparation for a return to play.

These images highlight the progress of some areas of construction and we will be updating Members further as the program reaches its conclusion and we achieve a handover for Members to enjoy. We look forward to providing even more information of completed works in our next edition of Courtside. ■







## Not To Be Missed

The grass courts are in fantastic condition and excitement is ripe for the highly anticipated 50th annual Club Championships.

**W**e look forward to seeing Members of all ages and standards grace the courts, vying to make a mark in the Kooyong history books.

The Championships will be held over the three weekends, with Friday twilight play again a feature.

In the Open singles events, Andrew Whittington and Belinda Woolcock are both on the hunt for a three-peat but will face some tough opposition.

Whittington will again be challenged by 4-time Champion David Bidmeade while Greg Jones will be looking to get his name on the honour board again after winning the title in 2018 and falling at the last hurdle the past two years.

A number of young guns will be giving it their all to claim their first title including Thomas Pavlekovich-Smith and Junior Davis Cup representative Cooper White.

David Qariaqus is also in top form at the moment and Greg Polmans will also be dangerous.

Belinda Woolcock's title defence may prove difficult with the change to the Australian Open scheduling, but should she be available will again prove difficult to beat.

Sally Peers is back in the mix, aiming for her third title, with her last in 2018. Roisin Gilheany has had some great results recently against some quality opponents and will be a threat to the experienced players.

Warrnambool product Eloise Swarbrick is at home on the grass and will be looking to push deep into the draw as will be Zoe Llewellyn and 2020 Junior Club Champion Grace Fountain.

Other popular events include the newly added Men's 130+ Doubles as well as the Under 21 Junior Boy's and Girl's events.

With an event for everyone, the Club Championships is a not to be missed event! ■

*If you have any questions about the Club Championships, please contact Sophie Vickers on 9822 3333 or via email: [svickers@kooyong.com.au](mailto:svickers@kooyong.com.au)*



2020 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS ACTION





# US College Pathway

The Kooyong Foundation currently have an impressive 13 players on tennis scholarships in the USA.

This has been an increasingly popular pathway for players to take and continue their tennis development after juniors whilst also having the opportunity to study and earn a university degree.

Josh Charlton is in his Junior (third) year at the University of Oregon and is thriving in the college tennis environment. He's been consistently ranked in singles and doubles in Division 1 Men's Tennis including reaching a high of 14 in singles and 8 in doubles.

"College for me has been really good so far. I've been in an environment where I have a lot of resources at my fingertips and am immersed in a professional culture. I'm getting exposure to a diverse range of opponents which I wouldn't get anywhere else which is definitely good to keep building my game along with gaining many new experiences. Along with travelling to new places each week and dealing with different environments, I think my game has continued to improve while I've been here and I always look forward to coming back to Melbourne over the break to represent the Yong and just overall keep improving to get to where I want to be.



▲ Jasmin Starr is in her Junior year at the University of Texas San Antonio.

► Josh Charlton is having an outstanding college career at the University of Oregon.



"Along with great competition I think the academic side is very rewarding as well. There are not many places where you can have the opportunity to succeed both on court and in the classroom. Even though the schedule is very intense it's something that I think will pay off in the long run finishing as a better tennis player along with a university degree".

Josh is one example of a young player excelling in the college environment and many more Foundation players are looking to follow this pathway and attain tennis scholarships in the coming years.

## Foundation players on a tennis scholarship at a US College

- **Annabelle Andrinopoulos** – University of Colorado/Indiana University
- **Josh Charlton** – University of Oregon
- **Corey Clarke** – New Mexico State University
- **Connor Di Marco** – University of Tulsa
- **Ben Grumley** – William Woods University
- **Greg Polmans** – Tyler Junior College
- **Grace Roberts** – South Western College Kansas
- **Jasmin Starr** – University of Texas San Antonio
- **Amy Stevens** – Vanderbilt University
- **Sophia Storch** – University of Hawaii
- **Stefan Storch** – Texas A&M University
- **Jeremy Taylor** – University of Memphis
- **Ted Williams** – Campbell University ■



► Marc Polmans had a stellar 2020 earning career-best results at grand slams.

▼ Cooper pictured with (from left): Frank Opray, Brendan Rice, Cooper's father Evan White, Foundation Chairman Peter Quinn, Geof Nash, Cooper's sister Mackenna, Richard Neville-Smith, Club Vice-president Brian Capp, Neville Bertalli and Cooper's mother Anna.



#### COOPER WHITE AT IMG ACADEMY

**One of the highlights for the Kooyong Foundation** in 2020 was sending one of our finest young players, Cooper White, to the US to attend one of the most prestigious tennis academies in the world the IMG Academy in Florida.

Founded by one of the world's finest coaches, Nick Bollettieri, it was there that stars like Andre Agassi, Boris Becker, Serena Williams and many others honed their game.

A group of Foundation and Club officials were involved in raising the funds for the trip, which was also financially supported by his parents. Cooper enjoyed a fruitful 3-month stint at IMG training with some of the best young players in the world and touring professionals.

The Foundation and the Club have every reason to be proud of Cooper's development since joining the Foundation Scholarship program and expect him to have a very bright future. ■

#### Breakthrough Year for Polmans

Marc Polmans' rise on the ATP tour continued in 2020, playing in all Grand Slam main draw singles events for the calendar year. In front of a raucous home crowd Polmans won his first main draw Grand Slam singles match over Mikhail Kukushkin in January at the Australian Open in a tough five set match. He also had great success in doubles reaching the quarterfinals with partner James Duckworth.

Polmans went on to contest the US Open singles in September and followed this up with an impressive victory at the French Open where he defeated 43rd ranked Frenchman Ugo Humbert. The wins were reward for Polmans who is known as one of the hardest workers in Australian tennis. He hit a career high ranking throughout 2020 of 116 in the world and finished the year at 124.

Polmans will look to continue his Grand Slam success in 2021 starting off with the Australian Open where he has been awarded a singles main draw wildcard. ■

He [Polmans] hit a career high ranking throughout 2020 of 116 in the world and finished the year at 124...



## Success at State Championships

Kooyong Foundation players enjoyed a highly successful Victorian State Championships in Bendigo recently. Cooper Errey played some impressive tennis, not dropping a set on his way to winning the 16/U singles title. He also took out the doubles event.

11-year-old Koharu Nishikawa had a great result in taking out the 14/U doubles title, as well as making a strong run to the semi-finals of the singles event.

More doubles success followed for Foundation players with Eliza Dunbar taking out the 16/U title and Jemma Carbis the 18/U doubles. Grace Darcy also had success at the QLD State Championships, winning the 16/U doubles title.

Congratulations!

## KOORYONG SCHOLARSHIPS

**Congratulations to the following players, who were inducted as Kooyong Scholarship holders for 2021:**

Nikolas Baker, Jessica Board, Sophia Brooks-Gay, Klaire Elkin, Oliver Elmslie, Baxter Errey, Hayden Heng, Ymerali Ibraimi, Emmanuel Soepardi, Nicolas Tremblay, Gabrielle Villegas, Madeleine Wilson.



◀ Far left 16/U State Champion Cooper Errey  
Left Koharu Nishikawa continues to impress against older opponents.

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Our heartfelt thanks to all those who donated to the Kooyong Foundation in 2020.

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Sally Capp	Michael Fogarty	Alan Kozica	Michael Ponsford	Jane Webb
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Sally Cohen	Jane Gorman	Graeme Liebelt	Susan Renouf	





## Men Premier League Champions

Kooyong's men's Premier League team were crowned Champions of the 2020 season defeating rivals Royal South Yarra in the final.

The competition consisted of a revised format this year with only three singles matches played each round, and all rounds played over three days. The compact format allowed for many of the state's best players to be able to get back on court for some quality matches after many months of no competitive tennis.

The Classics line-up had a familiar look, once again captained by David Bidmeade and led by number one player and world number 116 Marc Polmans. Jacob Grills and Andrew Whittington also added strength to the line-up and Omar Jasika was a welcome return to the team. Josh Charlton also joined the team for the first time and did not disappoint in his debut season. Daniel Byrnes, Mitch Burman, and Greg Jones rounded out the squad but due to the revised format and limited playing opportunities did not play any matches for the weekend.

The team faced Royal South Yarra in the opening round. Charlton impressed in his debut, coming away with a strong win against Enzo Aguiard. Jasika also started the weekend well with a comfortable win at the number two position to lock in the win for the team.

In round two, the men took on Glenburn. It was a clean sweep for Kooyong as Grills, Jasika and Whittington all recorded straight set victories.

The two pool wins earned the team a spot in the semi-final against MCC Glen Iris Valley. Having fallen to MCC in the final the past two seasons, the men went into the match fired up. Grills and Charlton got to work quickly and recorded comfortable straight set wins to secure a grand final berth.

With great depth in the team, selection for the grand final proved a difficult decision for the men. Following some tactical discussions, it was decided Polmans, Grills and Jasika would take to the court. Unfortunately, Royal

South Yarra's number one player Thanasi Kokkinakis was unavailable for the highly anticipated clash against Polmans, with Tasmanian Harry Bouchier moving up to the number one position. The top match was left incomplete with Polmans one set up, as Grills toppled Campbell Salmon in straight sets, and Jasika defeated Aaron Leeder-Chard to secure the Championship title for the team.

Kooyong's women's team went into the season looking to defend their 2020 title.

Following a bye in the first round the women, captained by Sally Peers, had a grand final rematch against Beaumaris Lawn Tennis Club in round two. Gabriella Da Silva-Fick got the team off to a great start with a strong win at the number two position before Amy Stevens fell in a tough match at number two. It all came down to Belinda Woolcock on the first court to decide the encounter, with Belinda unfortunately falling 10-7 in the third set in a high-quality match.

The women then fell to a talented Royal South Yarra outfit which included top Australian players Daria Gavrilova, Storm Sanders and Ellen Perez in round three.

Round four saw the women take on a young Hume team and after splitting the first two matches all eyes turned to the third court where Zoe Llewellyn took on Elicia Kim. Llewellyn gave it her all but went down in a deciding third set match tiebreak.

The final round also resulted in a tough 1-2 loss, this time MCC Glen Iris Valley proving too strong for Kooyong. While not the successful season of 2020, the women enjoyed the chance to play matches again and were pleased to welcome Jasmin Starr back to the squad while home from US college.

Congratulations to all those who represented the Club in Premier League, and well done to the men on bringing home the flag! ■



## Midweek Ladies

Midweek ladies' competition was severely affected by the global COVID-19 pandemic but is on the way back.

The Summer 2021 season of the Midweek Eastern Metropolitan Region Ladies' Tennis Association (MEMRLTA) will commence in February 2021. The season will be an eight-team draw, consisting of seven weeks and two weeks of finals. Pennants and trophies will be awarded. The winter 2021 season will commence on 20 April and will be a 10-team draw. This decision to delay the start of the summer season to 2021 was not taken lightly by MEMRLTA. They felt that the health and fitness of their members was paramount and starting the season late November, after such a very long layoff due to COVID, was not in the best interest of most teams. Starting in 2021 will allow players to regain their tennis fitness before commencing the season.

Kooyong has five teams entered for the summer 2021 season: Leanne Scott and Kris Tulloch in Section 1, Lauren Sanford in Section 2, Sally Addison in Section 3 and Jo Rush in Section 4.

A reminder that unlike MEMRLTA, Bayside Regional Tennis Association (BRTA) and Waverley & District Tennis Association (WDTA) have February to June and July to December seasons. On Thursday, BRTA, to get teams back on court ready for the February to June 2021 season, decided to give the ladies as much tennis as possible by playing five rounds, commencing in November, with no finals or pennants. In Section A/1, Jill Meggs' team finished second, Rosemary Everett's team was in third place and Kris Tulloch's team was fourth on the ladder.

In Section 2, due to short notice for the commencement of the season and limited availability of team members, Jenny Osborne and Christine Shearer's teams combined. They finished second.

In Section 3, Heather Anderson's team finished on top of the ladder! They will be hoping for a promotion to Section 2 for the February to June 2021 season.

Finally, to WDTA's Thursday competition, where sadly, after all the association's hard work and planning, they were unable to run any competition following the outbreak of COVID-19. They plan to resume in February 2021. Jacqui Morris' Section 3 team were cut down in their prime, sitting on top of the ladder back in March 2020. They have applied for a promotion to Section 2 for the new season.

Our midweek ladies' teams are all thoroughly looking forward to a return to "COVID Safe" competition and have been playing socially since Melbourne emerged out of lockdown. ■

◀ Lauren Sanford and  
Linda Dohnt.  
▲ Jenny Osborne.  
▼ Carol Thompson.







## Executive Chef Appointed

We are pleased to introduce our recently appointed Executive Chef Mathew Macartney.

**M**athew brings a breadth of industry experience including the Lake House in Daylesford, Château Yering in the Yarra Valley, the Village Belle Hotel and Olivigna.

Mathew's career started as an apprentice at the Snooty Fox in Olinda, progressed to Café e Cuccina in South Yarra, and finally to the Hotel Sofitel under Raymond Capaldi and Marcus Moore; "The best training a young chef could get."

During his tenure at the Lake House Macartney's professional skills were continually extended and refined as he progressed from Commis to Head Chef, punctuated with regular short-term opportunities in Fiji, New Zealand and Dubai.

When Macartney won Australia's "Best Sous Chef" the prize was a six-week appointment to any restaurant in the world. He chose Restaurant Daniel in New York which has been awarded a 3 Michelin star rating. "It was a unique

opportunity to immerse myself in a different culture within one of the world's most awarded restaurants".

In 2007 Mathew moved to the Yarra Valley and undertook the role of Executive Chef at Château Yering. Over the 8 years, Eleonore's Restaurant at Château Yering won several major industry awards.

Following his time in the Yarra Valley, Macartney opened his own restaurant, Char Dining in Balwyn.

Macartney then helped launch the Village Belle Hotel in St Kilda; his first foray into working at a large pub venue. Macartney was involved in the planning stages, the design of the kitchen as well as the implementation of menus.

Kooyong is Macartney's first time in a Club environment and he's "loving it".

Macartney says, "the opportunity to interact directly with Members excites me. I'm looking forward to working with Members to arrange different and interesting events." ■



▼ Below Chloe Brasse.  
Bottom Lucinda Paccagnan.



#### NEW RECEPTION STAFF

##### **We welcome new reception staff members**

Lucinda Paccagnan and Chloe Brasse to Kooyong. Lucinda and Chloe are often the first contact on arrival, and are both very happy to assist Members and guests with any questions or arrangements when visiting the Club. We invite Members to make yourselves known when you next visit Kooyong.



#### **Gourmet Traveller's Wine List Of The Year 2020**

Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club has again been honoured at the Gourmet Traveller's Wine list awards.

The wine list was assessed on its content, balance, suitability, presentation and pricing and was awarded a Goblet as a "Recommended" list.

##### **As published in Gourmet Traveller Wine Magazine:**

*A fine list which will appeal to the Club's members, whether they simply want a well-priced and easy to drink glass of good wine, or if they want to be that little bit more adventurous. In addition, many of their wines have received the benefit of some age.*

*A most competent list. ■*





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Tuesday/Thursday 7:00pm-8:30pm.

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◀ Peter Mioni returns to the court for the annual Summer Comp. After 6 months away from the game our squash players are finding it a little harder to reach the ball than previously.

## Squashies hit 2021 running

With the impending excitement of new courts and facilities looming large, 2021 will kick off with a flurry of activities from the squash section.

**O**ur first Cocktail evening for the year will likely have been had and enjoyed by the time you read this and you can be sure it will have been a great chance to meet up again with old friends and enjoy a welcome return to sociability.

Our members' joints and long rested muscles will be tested to the limits with the usual hard fought Summer Comp. This is a major social event for us each year and while we will need to curtail some of the usual activities, we have reshaped it to give our players a much needed tune up before pennant resumes in mid-February. Matches will be in Box Leagues of five closely matched individuals and played out over five weeks.

Then, leading in to the restart of pennant, Club Championships will also proceed in early February. We'll get a great insight into who among us has managed to keep

up any sort of training regime. In all likelihood we could see a quick and drastic reshuffling of the rankings and it will be exciting to be able to announce a raft of new names on the winners lists once completed.

While we have lost some players from competition teams moving into 2021 that's not too surprising since we tend to lose a few each year to age and travel. We will still field 14 squash teams across Club Circuit and SSL Ladies and for the first time in KLTC history three teams have been entered into the ESRA, our local Racquetball League.

So, we have much to look forward to in our group and are very excited to be back at the club. Apologies in advance for all the noise we intend to make! ■



# Former Kooyong Scholarship holder Selena Shaikh had a blistering start to last year.



**PSA ALL WORLD RANKINGS | APR 2020**

<b>1</b> John Link Slow feet, fast hands. The future of squash.	<b>2</b> <b>1</b> Selena Shaikh Super connected. Playing really well right now.	<b>3</b> Colin Crickshank Sponsored by Penfolds. A master of mind games.	<b>4</b> <b>1</b> Tate Norris Smooth mover. Serves best footwork for the dance floor.	<b>5</b> Grant Lubofsky Big Improver. Most games won without hitting a winner.
<b>6</b> Sarah Cardwell Never gives up. Proper professional, based in U.S.A.	<b>7</b> Sam Etemal Former child prodigy. Handicaps fall when needed most.	<b>8</b> Mike Wilkinson Played only 3 games in 4 years. Shouldn't be on the list.	<b>9</b> Jacob Gates Poor record vs Top 10. But has the wood on Cardwell.	<b>10</b> Connor Hayes Young & not reckless. He consistently who trains in his sleep.

**STAY HOME** **PSAWORLDTOUR.COM**

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## SQUASH MAD MEMBERS STAYED POSITIVE DURING LOCKDOWNS

With indoor sports, including squash being affected more than others during our recent periods of isolation and restrictions, the Squashies were determined to stay positive and band together to get through it all.

Just prior to the first lockdown, a Facebook group was hastily pulled together. It's called the Support Group for Squash Tragics without Courts and if you're up for a chuckle, or just want to keep in touch with news from that section, search for it on Facebook and feel free to join.

If the image above (pulled together when the PSA announced all rankings would be frozen) is any indication, its focus is on a bit of fun and finding ways to receive the boredom of lockdowns. ■

## Selena Shaikh

While lockdowns and international travel restrictions wreaked havoc with professional squash tournaments, one Kooyong member is as eager as any to get back on court given her early form from 2020. Former Kooyong Scholarship holder Selena Shaikh had a blistering start to last year.

Selena's first event for the year was the 2020 Australian Nationals, played at the National Squash Centre in early February at Carrara on the Gold Coast. She narrowly lost her semi-final in 5 tough games against former world number 25 Melissa Martin and took 3rd place after playoffs. She quickly shifted gears for the Australian Doubles Titles the following weekend, again taking 3rd place, this time teamed up with young up-and-comer, Alex Hayden in the strongest women's doubles field the event has seen in the last decade.

With barely time to rest, Selena headed back home to Melbourne where she won the Mountain Districts Women's Open, a Grand Prix event, beating long-time friend and former KLTC Scholarship holder, Taylor Flavell 3-1 in the final.

A week later, on the same weekend, Selena crossed the Westgate Bridge several times as she rushed to matches alternating in Geelong and Melbourne to take out both the Kooyong Club Championships Women's Open and another Grand Prix event, The Geelong Open Women's.

Congratulations to Selena and we are excited that you'll be back on tour soon and hope that your form is able to pick up where you left off. ■







## 2021 KLTC Squash Championships

As always, our squash championships are aligned to the tennis events and this year we kick off on February 5 and look forward to updating results in the next edition of Courtside.

For now, and in the absence of last year's Champions' Dinner, we would like to publicly congratulate our winners of 2020. ■

### 2020 RESULTS

<b>Men's Open</b>	Darren Chan def. Cameron White 8-11, 11-4, 11-5, 11-8 (34m)
<b>Women's Open</b>	Selena Shaikh def. Esihaanii Sukunesan 11-5, 11-1, 11-5 (15m)
<b>Junior Boys</b>	Christopher Pon def. Connor Hayes 10-12, 11-7, 11-6, 11-7 (31m)
<b>Junior Girls</b>	Eishaanii Sukunesan def. Jananii Sukunesan 11-2, 11-5, 4-11, 11-6 (23m)
<b>Grade 1</b>	Jaob Oates def. Grant Lubofsky 12-10, 11-9, 11-4 (22m)
<b>Grade 2</b>	Connor Hayes def. Jason Besser 11-6, 11-6, 11-6 (21m)
<b>Grade 3</b>	Eishaanii Sukunesan def. David Althaus 11-7, 11-8, 9-11, 2-11, 11-4 (31m)
<b>Grade 4</b>	Fergus Calwell def. Matt O'Sullivan 11-7, 8-11, 11-6, 11-9 (36m)
<b>Grade 5</b>	Jananii Sukunesan def. Caroline Van Dort 11-5, 11-3, 11-4 (11m)
<b>Women's Graded</b>	Caroline Van Dort def. Josephine Van Dort 11-7, 12-10, 11-8 (21m)
<b>Open Doubles</b>	Darcy St John/Alex Baines def. Cameron White/Selena Shaikh 11-9, 11-8 (22m)
<b>Masters</b>	John Mathieson def. Peter Mioni 64-60 (21m)

▲ Clockwise, from top left Open Champions Selena Shaikh and Darren Chan; Men's Open Doubles Champions Darcy St John and Alex Baines; Caroline Van Dort defeated Josephine Van Dort in the Women's Graded event; Fergus Calwell defeated Matt O'Sullivan in the Grade 4 event; Peter Mioni was defeated by John Mathieson in the Masters event.





# Billiards & Snooker

by David Pitt, Chairman

**Like everyone else, Billiards and Snooker at Kooyong** had an unprecedented year this year, with COVID-19 cutting a swathe through the Club's activities. Since last year's annual report, the Club Championships were concluded, and then three or four rounds into the Autumn pennant season the lockdown effectively prevented any pennant or tournament play and nearly all social play for the remainder of 2020. The Club looks forward to a resumption of more normal activities in 2021.

## Club Championships

There were a record 66 entries in the 2019 Club billiards and snooker championships won by Steve Mifsud (Open Billiards), David Cosgriff (Open Snooker), Neil Maclachlan (Handicap Billiards) and Michael Kirwan (Handicap Snooker). Many thanks to Greg Baker assisted by Steve Murphy who organised and ran the Club Championships in exemplary fashion.

### Highlights included:

- Highest Break Billiards: Steve Mifsud 201 (Open Billiards).
- Highest Break Snooker: Steve Mifsud 54 (Open Snooker).
- Seven different players reached the finals.

- Eleven different players reached the semi-finals.
- Neil Maclachlan competed in all four semi-finals.
- Steve Mifsud was the only player to successfully defend his 2018 title (Open Billiards).
- David Cosgriff won the Open Snooker for the fourth time.
- Neil Maclachlan and Michael Kirwan won KLTC events for the first time.
- Neil Maclachlan defeated Steve Mifsud 3-1 in the Open Snooker, the first defeat for former World Snooker Champion Steve Mifsud in any Kooyong Open event.

## Pennant Teams

Only three or four rounds of pennant competition were played before all competitions were suspended for the remainder of 2020.

## Social Events

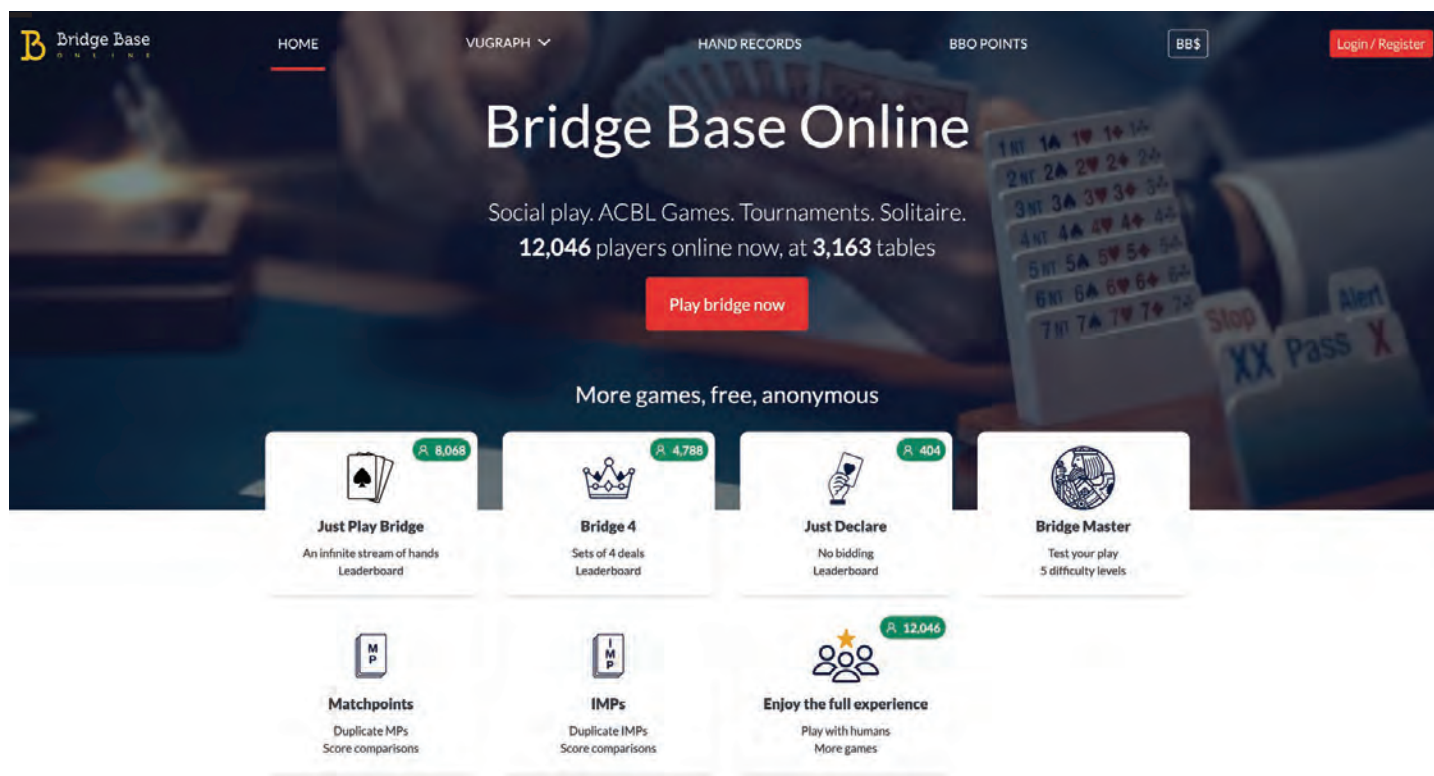
The annual Sandringham-Kooyong Cup was cancelled.

## Club And Members

In 2021 the Club and its members look forward to resuming normal activities with renewed enthusiasm. ■

COMPETITION	WINNER		RUNNER-UP	
Open Billiards	Steve Mifsud	490 (88)	David Cosgriff	394 (52, 55)
Open Snooker	David Cosgriff	4 (22, 25, 48)	Don Richter	1
Handicap Billiards	Neil Maclachlan	329 (26, 30, 20)	Nick Kotros	284
Handicap Snooker	Michael Kirwan	172	Martin James	67





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## Bridge Club

by Maria Campbell, Bridge Club President

**Globally Covid-19 has affected every part of our lives** during 2020 which has been a very different and difficult year presenting us all with challenges most of which have been met with our usual Australian resilience and flexibility.

Face to face Bridge has necessarily been stopped but it has been innovatively replaced with online Bridge including various new technologies, which our KLTC Bridge club members have embraced. In particular, the popular pairing of Shirley Bowman and Max Williams have maintained their enthusiasm for Bridge during the lockdown, often playing online up to seven times per week. Notably Terry Crawford our Director has done an amazing job running all our online sessions.

Bridge Base Online (BBO) currently our preferred online offering is a well-established online Bridge platform which has provided great opportunities to play every minute of every day with people in all parts of the world, it is amazing how big the Bridge world is. We will continue to review online offerings with a view to maximizing the bridge experience for members potentially including video and voice.

Going forward in 2021 we expect that playing Bridge at Kooyong will be a mix of face-to-face and online play. To allow us to open as soon as possible in the safest possible way, a face-to-face coordinator, Faye Norton-Old, has been appointed to ensure we follow all prevailing restrictions and get back to the Kooyong Bridge Club table.

As Government and Club directions allow, further dates and details will be posted on the website. ■

Shirley Bowman and Max Williams have maintained their enthusiasm for Bridge during the lockdown, often playing online up to seven times per week...



# Royal Children's Hospital Auxiliary

by Jenny Booth, President Royal Children's Hospital Auxiliary

**The Kooyong Royal Children's Hospital Auxiliary** has not been immune to the 2020 trials of COVID-19. On February 8, 2021 we will be holding our Annual General Meeting in the Sir Norman Brookes Room. This will be the first time that our committee has been able to meet in person since coming together on March 16, 2020. However, we have all mastered the challenges of Zoom and our committee meetings went ahead virtually throughout the year enabling our continued support for the Royal Children's Hospital.

2020 was to be a year of celebration for The Royal Children's Hospital marking the 150 years of service to the children and families of Victoria. On February 22, 2020 The Honourable Linda Dessau AC, Governor of Victoria, held a Garden Party at Government House to thank and welcome RCH volunteers and their families. The Kooyong Auxiliary was well represented with eight of our members attending.

The KLTC Auxiliary's Annual Ladies Grass Court Doubles Tournament was held on Monday March 2, 2020. Our convenor, Lyn Wheat, ably assisted by Cedric Mason, the team at Kooyong and the committee, once again organized a superb day enjoyed by all. Monies raised on the day, plus the generous response to our online donation request from the Kooyong community, meant that we could add approximately \$20,500 to our grants fund for the Royal Children's Hospital. This, combined with funds raised in 2019, enabled us to support and contribute to three major grant requests this year:

- 1. Neonatal Infant Warmer Radiant Heaters** providing critically ill infants access to surgery whilst remaining in an optimal environment. **\$70,000**
- 2. Xcite Multi Channel Functional Electrical Stimulation Device** to be used by Physiotherapists and Occupational Therapists. This device allows for early and more specific functional training for the rehabilitation of children with upper neuron issues. **\$14,598.50**
- 3. MyXrayDose – a Radiation Dose Tracking System.** To honour the 150 years of the RCH Auxiliaries, Miriam Weisz (President) approached all Auxiliaries asking them to consider making a contribution towards the RCH 150 Anniversary Grant of \$150,000 required for the purchase of the MyXrayDose. This will provide automated radiation dose tracking software allowing the creation of individual, complete and comprehensive histories of the radiation exposure that patients receive, thus ensuring that all radiation is closely monitored to minimize life threatening risks. **\$20,000**



▲ KLTC RCH Committee members attending the Garden Party at Government House.

▼ Marie Devereux, Past President, recognised this year by the RCH Foundation for her 35 years of service to the Royal Children's Hospital.

▼ Jean Burgess recognised by the RCH Foundation as a Living Treasure for her dedication and work for the RCH Auxiliary.



Our Auxiliary is, and always has been, enthusiastically and generously supported by the Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club membership, administration and staff and for this we are very grateful. It is thanks to this wonderful support that we have been able to make these significant donations.

It is our hope that in 2021 we will once again provide opportunities for our Kooyong community to come together to support The Royal Children's Hospital. Of course as we venture into 2021 all is dependent on COVID regulations. Unfortunately we have had to cancel our Tennis Day for 2021. However, with a positive attitude and the support of the Kooyong administration and community we will find a way of reinstating our fundraising program.

We are unsure what the next few months will bring for our Auxiliary, but it is important to acknowledge that our determination to contribute to the Royal Children's Hospital has not waned and we look forward to engaging with our KLTC community once again to make a difference to the RCH children and their families. ■





# Wine & Food Society

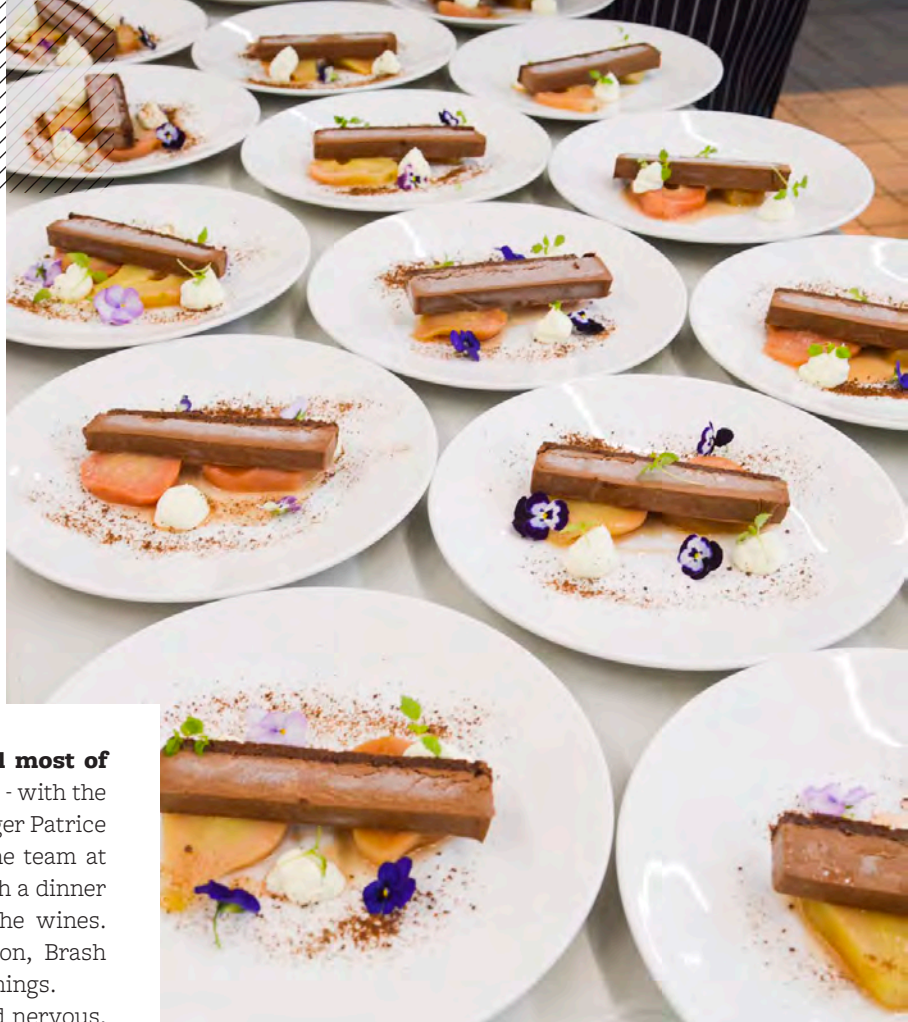
by Leanne Parer, President Wine & Food Society

**2020 saw the Wine and Food Society cancel most of** our dinners. However, during the last six months - with the wonderful assistance of Food and Beverage Manager Patrice Renaudin, Executive Chef Chris Goulding and the team at Kooyong - we hosted five zoom wine tastings with a dinner option that was always expertly paired with the wines. The wineries included; Peter Lehman, Mitchelton, Brash Higgins, and Craiglee. These were wonderful evenings.

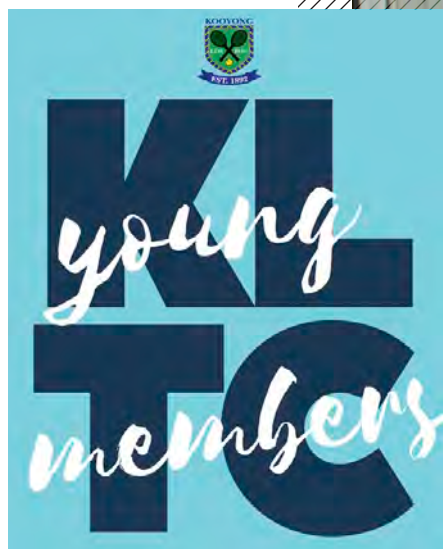
In December we were delighted, and also a tad nervous, when Chris Brown rang to say we could hold an end of year function .... in 10 days! Everyone worked very quickly and we were thrilled to be able to close the year celebrating sensational food and wine together in the Racquet Club.

We now look forward to 2021 with great anticipation as we will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Wine and Food Society. We will start the year with the AGM Monday 1st February which will include a wine tasting with Mitchelton wines and charcuterie plates. More information regarding the AGM will be posted in early January.

The WFS would like to wish Chris Goulding all the very best for his future endeavours. We thank him for his creative and delicious meals, which were always enjoyed by the diners. We are also grateful for his contribution during the dinners where he took the time to share his skills and knowledge with the members. Thank you Chris. ■







# Young Members

by Tom Ryan, President Young Members

**2020 was a difficult year for obvious reasons.** With in-person and physical events mostly impossible, the bulk of the Young Members connection has been through digital means.

Our main focus has been on the development and growth of our social media presence via Instagram and Facebook.

The Instagram page (@KOOYONG\_YM) has worked its way up to over 250 followers and we are looking to expand further in 2021.

Our Annual General Meeting held via Zoom proved to be a great success with committee members stepping up to leadership positions, welcoming new committee members as well as saying farewell to others.

Special mention goes to Lucy James. Lucy was Vice President for 2019-2020 and was a member of the committee for several years previously. Unfortunately, she has had to step down as she has taken on a role at Teach for Australia where she will be teaching French for underprivileged kids up in Ballarat. We wish her the best of luck in this endeavour.

2021 is set to be an exciting year for the KLTC Young Members with multiple functions held throughout the year leading up to the penultimate event being the Yarrayong Ball.

Throughout the year the Young Members host several events, providing the perfect platform for our Club's younger members to network and let their hair down in a more social setting.

As mentioned, the highlight of the year is our Yarrayong Ball, which is the annual function held in conjunction with the Royal South Yarra Young Members. Some 200+ guests in attendance to be held at Royal South Yarra this year. With drinks flowing and guest DJs on the night, everyone certainly enjoys themselves.

The Young Members have earmarked several events for the coming year to really shake off the 2020 bug. Don't miss our first event of the year — the annual A Day on the Clay on Saturday March 20th.

## 2021 KLTC YOUNG MEMBERS COMMITTEE

**President:** Tom Ryan

**Vice President:** Chris McMullin

**Treasurer:** Mark Babbage

**Secretary/Editor:** Jayme O'Donoghue

**Social Media Manager:** Cate Vesely

**General Committee:** Elliot Loney, Harry Stobie, Morgan Lobe, Peta Stern, Sarah Boundy, Steph Willox and Tom Cameron.

Keep an eye out for a variety of other events throughout the year which may include:

- The Yarrayong Ball
- Golf Day
- Billiards Night
- Sailing Day
- Table Tennis Competition
- Happy Hour events on the balcony
- Yoga and Pilates on the grass
- Bootcamps

...and hopefully many more!

For further information on all things Young Members, join the Facebook Group by searching "KLTC Young Members" and follow us on Instagram by searching @KOOYONG\_YM – we look forward to seeing you at our next event!

We are always open to new ideas, so feel free to connect with us and let us know what you would like to see at our next event. ■

Connect with Tom on his mobile 0450 298 920 or by email [t.m.ryan@outlook.com](mailto:t.m.ryan@outlook.com).



# Health Club

by Michael Kull, Health Club Manager

## Tough Times don't last, tough people do

2020 provided its fair share of ups and downs for everyone, on March the 23rd the club closed for Victoria's first lockdown. However, the club was proactive during the first lockdown, giving complimentary fitness classes to the members, upgrading the health club's cardio equipment to the latest Precor and reupholstering the existing gym equipment.

## Lockdown Series In-Person Classes

Victorian Covid laws allowed outdoor exercise classes of up to 10 people during the first lockdown. As a result, thirty-two outdoor complimentary group exercise classes were provided weekly for members to enjoy whilst the health club was temporarily unavailable for use, connecting with over 500 members weekly. The classes consisted of having specialised focuses on flexibility, Pilates, and Interval Training circuits.

## Virtual Classes

The second lockdown posed more challenges as outdoor group exercise classes were no longer an option. As a result, complimentary zoom exercises sessions were introduced to members to enjoy from the comfort of their own homes. These zoom classes were also pre-recorded and can be viewed anytime on the Kooyong website. The timetable consisted of flexibility training, Pilates, Isometric Strength Training, High-Intensity Interval Training and a 6-week healthy eating initiative for weight loss.

## New Equipment

Upon reopening the gym after the first lockdown, members were met with brand new cardio equipment from Precor. When returning after the second lockdown, the club had refurbished the padding of the exercise equipment in the gym and a new varnish for the floorboards in the studio room.

## Staff Member Highlights

Over the following pages will be a summary of the highlights of the work done in Lockdown from four of the Kooyong Health Club staff.

## Outro

Out of adversity came the opportunity to connect. Even with the challenges faced by COVID-19 restrictions, the Kooyong Health Club was able to provide a healthy interactive community.

► Marg Scotti - Pilates instructor, taking her knowledge to the web.



### MARG SCOTTI

#### Pilates classes started as usual although by

March we were entering the first Covid lockdown, resulting in all classes being cancelled.

During the first lockdown, Marg Scotti conducted her classes on Tuesdays at 9am and 4pm.

Setting up along the driveway suitably distanced, the class was challenged by the restricted equipment usage and the allocated environment, although incorporated stair runs and cardio into the routine.

The in-person classes only lasted a short time before Victoria's second lockdown, this time with much harsher restrictions. Always reinventing ourselves, the Club proposed the initiative of online classes via Zoom. Marg conducted her regular Pilates classes every Monday at 9am, often having 60-70 people joining in. We have continued to run these classes for the remainder of the year. In 2021 we hope to be back in the gym in a "Covid normal" arrangement with limited participants to enforce social distancing. It's not an ideal situation however we keep thinking to ourselves at least we can be together again.

The Health Club is looking forward to 2021 and the new gym.

We would like to wish all the members a Happy New Year, and a stronger healthier 2021.

*Members interested in personal training for the year ahead can contact Health Club Manager Michael Kull on 0419 003 762 or 9822 3333.*



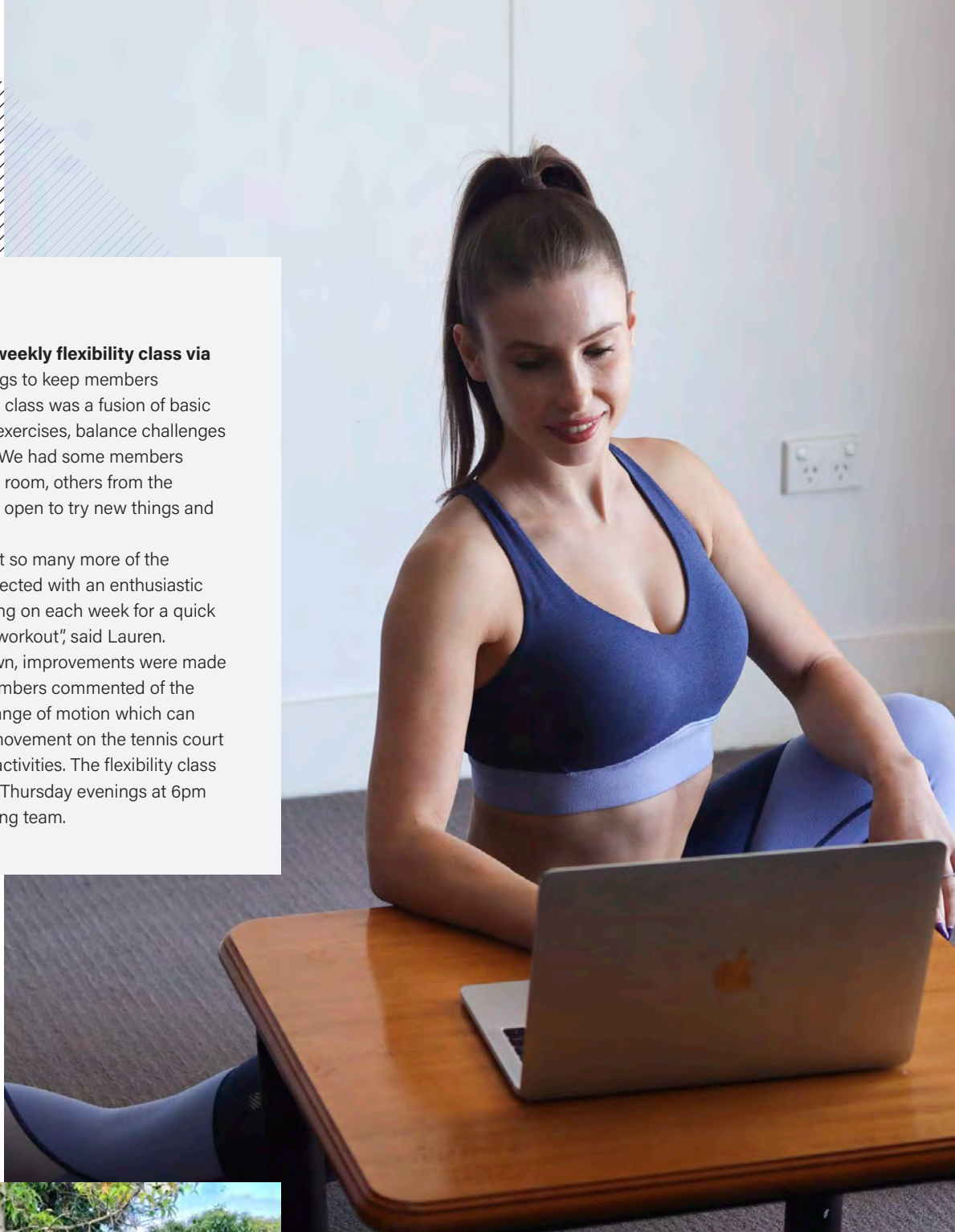
## LAUREN SKOPAL

**Lauren conducted a weekly flexibility class via zoom** on Friday mornings to keep members supple and mobile. The class was a fusion of basic gymnastics stretching exercises, balance challenges and core conditioning. We had some members joining from the lounge room, others from the carport - everyone was open to try new things and challenge themselves.

"It was great to meet so many more of the members. We felt connected with an enthusiastic group of regulars logging on each week for a quick chat followed by a fun workout", said Lauren.

Throughout lockdown, improvements were made by members. Many members commented of the improvement to their range of motion which can translate to improved movement on the tennis court as well as in everyday activities. The flexibility class will resume in 2021 on Thursday evenings at 6pm with the Limber coaching team.

► Lauren Skopal - Exercise Scientist, going through her flexibility zoom class.  
▼ Tom and 'Tim' going through their HIIT class in their back garden.



## Tom (and 'Tim')

Early in Lockdown, Tom provided workout videos for Kooyong to post on Vimeo and Facebook. During these workouts Tom doubled himself on the screen, showing two ways to complete each movement at a diverse range of intensities, leading many people to think that Tom has a twin brother... currently, Tom is neither confirming nor denying the rumours.

Tom conducted many of the face-to-face classes during the first lockdown, with 15 sessions a week and seeing nearly 200 people during that time. Needless to say, remembering names became an issue. His sessions considered mainly around HIIT styles, however providing scaling options for those with problem areas. »





◀ Michael Kull - Health Club Manager, demonstrating his overnight oat recipe

## MICHAEL KULL

**As Health Club Manager, Michael is familiar with** connecting with members face-to-face within the confines of Kooyong's gym. However, during the second lockdown, any face-to-face interaction could not be an option.

The main challenge the Health Club faced approaching lockdown was establishing a method of communicating with members and getting positive health results from members without the use of the gym.

One solution was establishing a six-week healthy eating program, which then extended to the rest of the second lockdown. Michael has had experience as a qualified chef and presenter of healthy living television programs for many years. The program was designed to inform the members regarding nutrition while providing easy meals that were healthy and delicious. To enable a holistic healthy lifestyle for members, rather than prescribing to fad diets. Michael himself participated in the challenge and lost 6kg of body fat over the six-week program.

Michael stated that the rewarding parts of the lockdown initiatives were being able to connect with the members while receiving feedback that members were implementing his healthy lifestyle advice into their daily lives such as members using Michael's overnight oats recipes, a nutritionally balanced breakfast that is ideal for the busy lives of working members.

Returning to the club it was incredible to witness the community that was built through the Club's online initiative, as members who had never met in person were able to converse face-to-face (socially distanced of course). While also implementing the knowledge given during Michael's Isometric Strength Training virtual class. The reason that the Kooyong Health Club staff are so passionate about their jobs is they want to create positive changes in people's lifestyle. As a Health Club, we are grateful that there are platforms that have enabled positive communication during the lockdown. ■

Without any equipment, Tom had to be creative in what he prescribed. Having stair climbs, sprints, full-body movements, leg dominant movement, upper body movement and a "favourite" finisher for many members of the Sally Up challenge for squatting.

During the second lockdown, Tom took a Total Body Tone class on Wednesdays at 9am. With a positive turnout, the class often reached above 40 members joining the call. During the session Tom was able to slowly introduce equipment into the program, starting with no equipment and as techniques of the members progressed adding equipment members had at home into the routine. The movements Tom prescribed were able to be completed with a diverse range of objects, for those who didn't have typical equipment such as dumbbells or kettlebells; backpacks, their kids' school books, milk cartons, bricks and briefcases were used.



# Social Committee

by Peter Tingate, Social Committee President

## 2021 - Onward and Upwards!

After a challenging year with limited events the Social Committee is planning a full calendar of activities in the coming year. There have been three retirements on the committee from key members who have made a significant contribution to running the committee over a long period of time. Jenny Silvers (Past President), Kat Benyon (Past Secretary) and Tanya Fryc have worked tirelessly over the past ten years to bring members together and we thank them sincerely for their contribution to the Club's social fabric. On behalf of the committee – Peter Tingate (President), Chris Barnett (Vice President), Andrew Munday (Treasurer), Jane Ormiston (Secretary), Larissa Langley, Liz Jones and our two newest members, Janine McDonald and Amanda Thomas – we look forward to seeing you at our next function.

### SAVE THE DATE

**Friday 5th February 2021** – Mixed Tennis Social Event & BBQ

**Friday 26th February 2021** – Happy Hour  
(TBC - subject to Covid-19 restrictions)

**Sunday 21st March 2021** – Long Lunch Event

**Friday 26th March 2021** – Happy Hour  
(TBC – subject to Covid-19 restrictions)

**Sunday 16th May 2021** – Social Tennis Event

The event was a sell-out due to limited capacity and we apologise to those who missed out. Our tennis events are always popular – so book early!

## Friday Twilight Mixed Doubles Event

Forty-eight enthusiastic members participated in a fun evening of mixed doubles tennis on Friday 4th December. After a long hiatus from the club due to Covid19 it was tremendous to be back on court and out playing social tennis again. The event was a sell-out due to limited capacity and we apologise to those who missed out. Our tennis events are always popular – so book early! A great night of social competition was enjoyed on the grass and many players stayed on to have dinner in the clubhouse or to enjoy a drink on the terrace afterwards.



▲ From left: Jenny Tingate, Anne Sheary, Jane Tang (guest).



## Pro Shop Website

We are thrilled to announce we have officially launched the 'Kooyong Pro Shop' Website!

You can browse our most popular items online at [www.kooyongproshop.com.au](http://www.kooyongproshop.com.au) and enjoy delivery from the comforts of your own home!

We happily welcome a wonderful Kooyong range of clothing. This range features our ever-popular Kooyong hoodie, a brand-new Kooyong Tracksuit – including a comfortable Microfibre Track Jacket, a shower-proof Softshell Jacket and Track Pants. Accompanying these staple items, we introduce new Mid-Layer Long Sleeve Tops, ideal to throw on over the top of a polo shirt for the cooler days.

Lastly, we would like to extend our appreciation to all who have supported the Pro Shop and the Tennis Academy during these testing times. Your support and smiling faces do not go unnoticed and drive us to provide the best products and services we can for you. ■



▲ Men's Softshell Jacket \$109;  
Men's Navy Shorts \$49.  
► Women's Microfibre Jacket  
\$109; Women's Track Pants \$89.

There is lots happening at the Club in the next few months, get involved and come along!

## February 2021

<b>1st</b>	Wine and Food Society AGM
<b>5th</b>	Social Committee BBQ
<b>5th</b>	Squash Club Cocktail Event
<b>5th–7th; 12th–14th; 19th–21st</b>	KLTC Club Championships
<b>8th</b>	Royal Children's Hospital Auxiliary AGM
<b>21st</b>	Social Committee Long Lunch
<b>26th</b>	Social Committee Happy Hour

## March 2021

<b>19th</b>	Wine and Food Society Dinner
<b>20th</b>	Young Members Day on the Clay
<b>26th</b>	Social Committee Happy Hour

## April 2021

<b>28th</b>	Royal Children's Hospital Auxiliary Card Day
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\*all dates subject to confirmation



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**5 YEAR WARRANTY<sup>^</sup>**  
PASSENGER CARS | UNLIMITED KM  
terms, conditions & exclusions apply.

# Make someday today.

Demonstrator offers. Limited days.

Take advantage of exceptional offers on a wide range of Mercedes-Benz Demonstrators during Mercedays\*. With 3 years complimentary scheduled servicing\* and a \$1,000 contribution from Mercedes-Benz Financial Services~ – why wait?

Visit Mercedes-Benz Toorak today. Ends February 28. Whilst stocks last.

[www.mbttoorak.com.au](http://www.mbttoorak.com.au)

\*Offer available from participating Retailers, limited to stock available at time of purchase. Excludes new and pre-owned vehicles, EQC model, leasing products, fleet, government, corporate and rental buyers. Applies to vehicles ordered and delivered between 1 January and 28 February 2021, unless offer is extended by Mercedes-Benz. Whilst stocks last.

\*Scheduled servicing is complimentary for up to 3 years or the relevant mileage-based servicing interval applicable to your model, whichever occurs first, in accordance with the applicable Mercedes-Benz Service Plan. For further information (including vehicle eligibility, mileage and Service Plan conditions) please contact your retailer or visit [www.mercedes-benz.com.au/servicesolutions](http://www.mercedes-benz.com.au/servicesolutions).

~Offer is subject to the customer entering into a finance contract (minimum 36-month term and \$30,000 financed) with Mercedes-Benz Financial Services (excluding Simplicity, operating and finance leases). Restricted to approved customers (excluding fleet, government or rental and corporate buyers) of Mercedes-Benz Financial Services Australia Pty Ltd ABN 73 074 134 517, Australian Credit Licence 247271, and subject to standard credit assessment, lending criteria and fees.

^Applicable to new and demonstrator passenger cars for 5 years from the date of first registration of the vehicle. Warranty start time may differ for demonstrator vehicles. Commercial application of vehicle is subject to 5 years from first registration date or 200,000km (whichever occurs first). Battery warranty periods vary. Excludes customers with specific warranty arrangements. For full terms, conditions and exclusions please refer to the warranty statement here [www.mbttoorak.com.au](http://www.mbttoorak.com.au).

