



The Australian

Davis Cup Tennis

Foundation News

Produced for Members of the Foundation ABN 90 004 905 060

October 2014



Australia defeats Uzbekistan 5-0 at Cottesloe Tennis Club, Perth.



AUSTRALIA  5 : 0  UZBEKISTAN

WORLD GROUP PLAY-OFF

12 Sep - 14 Sep 2014, Cottesloe Tennis Club, Perth, Australia, Grass, Outdoor

R1	★ <u>N. KYRGIOS</u>	6-4 7-5 6-4	<u>D. ISTOMIN</u>
R2	★ <u>L. HEWITT</u>	6-4 6-4 6-2	<u>F. DUSTOV</u>
R3	★ <u>C. GUCCIONE</u> <u>L. HEWITT</u>	6-3 7-6(5) 6-2	<u>F. DUSTOV</u> <u>D. ISTOMIN</u>
R4	★ <u>S. GROTH</u>	6-3 6-2	<u>T. ISMAILOV</u>
R5	★ <u>N. KYRGIOS</u>	6-1 6-1	<u>S. FAYZIEV</u>

Aussies victorious in World Group play-off.

Our Davis Cup team of Lleyton Hewitt, Nick Kyrgios, Chris Cuccione and Sam Groth, with Captain Pat Rafter travelled to the Cottesloe Tennis Club, Perth to contend the World Group play-off against Uzbekistan, on the weekend 12-14 September.

A very pretty setting, Cottesloe provided an ideal venue for around 5,000 spectators and the pounding surf on Cottesloe Beach provided the Aussie backdrop on the preceding Thursday for the order of play draw and the following three (3) days saw perfect match conditions with 23 degrees and clear blue sky.



The players at Cottesloe Beach for the draw.

First up on Friday was 19 year old Nick Kyrgios playing his first Davis Cup tie on home soil and more particularly on grass, the surface on which he excelled when he took the tennis world by storm at Wimbledon in July. Now ranked 53 Nick outplayed Uzbekistan No.1 Denis Istomin to win in three (3) sets 6-4 7-5 6-4.

Next on court was our tenacious World former No. 1, 16 years Davis Cup tie veteran Lleyton Hewitt who earlier had been honoured with the ITF Davis Cup Commitment award at the pre-tie dinner at Crown. His opponent was Uzbekistan's Farrukh Dustov, both determined to handle the pressure and expectation of team tennis.

Lleyton prevailed in an exciting 3 set match 6-4 6-4 6-2 and Australia was on the way to a return to the World Group. His athleticism and court coverage was a highlight of the match.

Saturday saw Lleyton Hewitt and Chris Guccione secure our place in the World Group 2015, sweeping to a comfortable victory of 6-3 7-6(5) 6-2 against Uzbekistan's Denis Istomin and Farrukh Dustov.

Lleyton and Chris extended their winning Davis Cup doubles partnership to 6-1 with their only defeat against Richard Gasquet and Jo-Wilfried Tsonga in France in February.

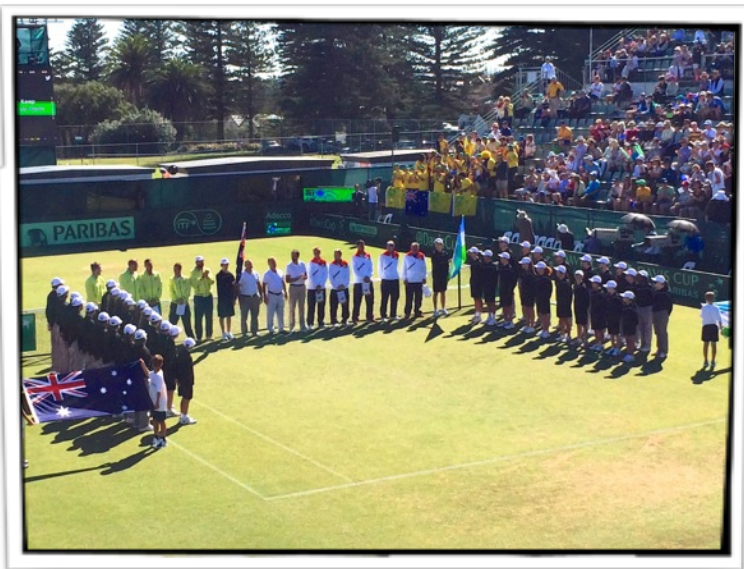
The final day matches saw debutant Sam Groth take on Temur Ismailov in the first of the best of three set dead rubber reverse singles and this saw Sam open up his Davis Cup career with a brisk 6-3 6-2 win. Nick Kyrgios then quickly dispatched Sanjar Fayziev, a 19 year old Davis Cup debutante, ranked 736, who was overwhelmed by the occasion.

Fayziev acknowledged the crowd, particularly directed to the "Fanatics" with the "vicht" salute when he won his first and only game in the second set.

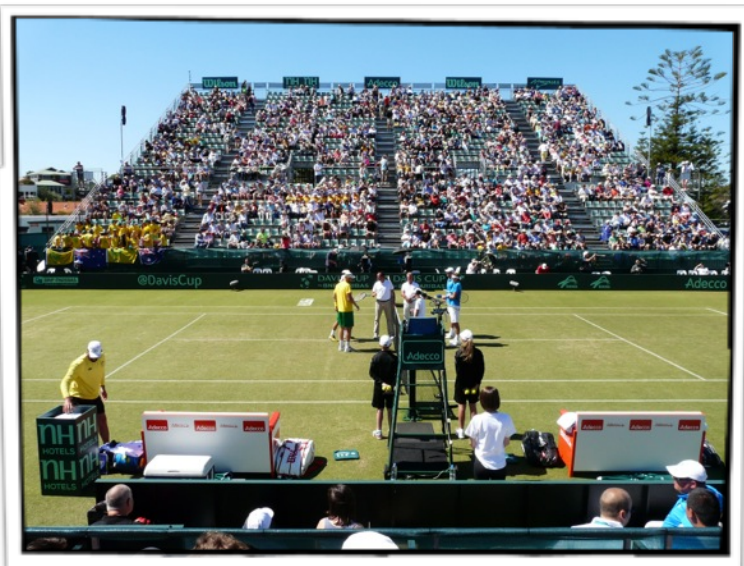
It is a welcome return by Australia to the top tier again in 2015 as it has been tough for the 28-time champions since their last victory in 2003 and from 2008-2013 having languished in the Asia/Oceania section of the draw.

Davis Cup World Group 2015 Rankings (seeding)

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Czech Republic | 9. Canada |
| 2. France | 10. Kazakhstan |
| 3. Serbia | 11. Great Britain |
| 4. Switzerland | 12. Japan |
| 5. Spain | 13. Germany |
| 6. Argentina | 14. Croatia |
| 7. Italy | 15. Australia |
| 8. USA | 16. Belgium |



The Opening Ceremony.



The toss of the coin in the doubles rubber.



Foundation members at the ADCTF dinner at the Esplanade Hotel in Fremantle.

Our Next Opponents

Luck was certainly not on the side of our Davis Cup team when they drew a daunting first round match against the top ranking Czech Republic for an away tie in the World Group matches scheduled for 6-8 March 2015.

Australia entered the draw, held in Dubai, well aware that six of possible eight draws would result in a home match, with a home tie against the USA probably the most advantageous option. Although beaten 4/1 by the French in the World Group semi-final 2014, the Czechs will start firm favourites as they chase a third Davis Cup title in four years armed with the world No. 7 Tomas Berdych, Lukas Rosol, Jiri Vesely and Radek Stepanek. Earlier in this year France had beaten Australia 5/0 in the first round and is scheduled to meet Switzerland in the Final in November.

Australia has not won in the World Group in Europe since 2006 when it defeated Switzerland - with both Federer and Hewitt sidelined. It was in that year that we reached the semi-final but since then we have dominated the zonal ties but have lost play-off ties to Serbia, Switzerland, Chile and Germany.

When drawn on our chances of success Pat Rafter said "It is not ideal, we have had better draws. But it is not a foregone conclusion. We are approaching this as an opportunity and we go in thinking we can cause an upset."

Members well represented at Perth tie

Our arrangements with Tennis Australia again allowed members to purchase priority quality seating for the Davis Cup tie at the Cottesloe Tennis Club Perth, prior to tickets going on sale to the general public.

Over 150 members took advantage of this offer and in conjunction with Bentleigh Travel we provided airplane and accommodation packages to the Rydges Esplanade Hotel - Fremantle and the Crown Metropol Hotel - Burswood.

About 80 of the members staying at Rydges gathered on the Saturday evening for dinner at the hotel.

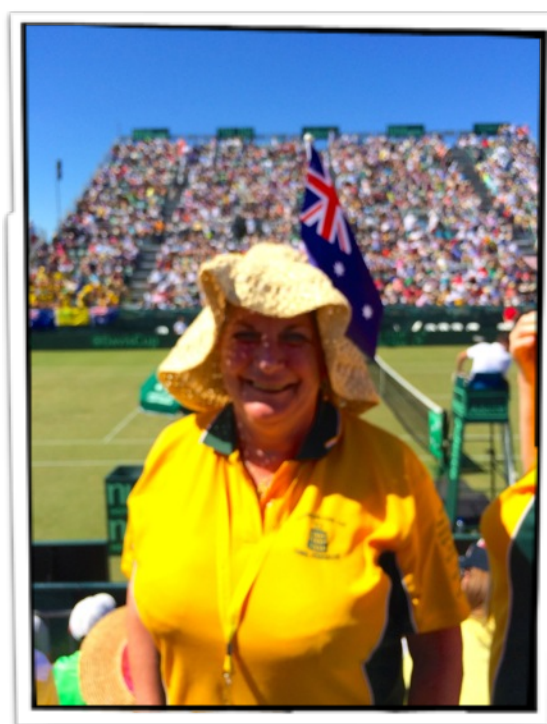
Following the tennis 21 members took a four day coach tour to Monkey Mia and Kalbarri before returning home.

Up-coming activities

- **October/November**
 - Melbourne Park Tour date TBA
- **Thursday 27 November 2014**
 - AGM Royal South Yarra LTC
- **Monday 19 January 2015**
 - Australian Open commences
- **Friday 30 January 2015**
 - ADCTF AO Luncheon MCC 12 noon
- **6-8 March 2015**
 - World Group - First round tie – venue TBA



Two Fanatics try to steal Bob Parker!



Jill White our keenest member!



Sam Groth wins his first Davis Cup match.

Ticketing advice – keep informed in a timely manner

Recently, a few members have called to advise they have not received ticketing advice for the Australian Open 2015. If we communicate with you on-line it is important to open and read our eNews to keep abreast of our activities and offers, including ticketing.

For the past 3 years members using email have been forwarded ticketing details as an attachment in an eNews sent out mid July. Additionally, all details are provided in the Foundation web site www.adctf.org and members should check it out regularly to obtain all the latest news.

Our site is considered easy to navigate and contains historical data, corporate detail and interesting material along with the latest news under **News/Latest News/Publications**.

If you have concerns with receiving our emailed advice then you should consider contacting our office on info@adctf.org.au to revert to standard mail.

The Foundation AO Luncheon 2015

Arrangements for our 2015 Australian Open luncheon are progressing and it is proposed that we celebrate the 56th anniversary of the 1959 victory when Australia defeated the USA 3-2 at the West Side Tennis Club Forest Hills New York with our team of Rod Laver, Neale Fraser Roy Emerson and the late Bob Mark, with non-playing Captain Harry Hopman.

Currently our President Neale Fraser is engaged in ensuring former player attendance, along with the legendary Fred Stolle, who has supported the Foundation in its endeavours, for the past couple of years, as the MC of the day.



The proposed venue for the luncheon is the Members Dining Room at the Melbourne Cricket Club which is convenient for members wishing to attend the twilight tennis session later in the day.

Bookings are now open and your reservation will be accepted on the function Booking Form available on the Foundation web site: www.adctf.org. The cost is \$135 for members and \$145 for guests and is inclusive of a 2 course meal, premium beverages and an action packed day.

We continue to seek members support of the AO Luncheon in various ways and we invite any member who can offer support to the Luncheon by donating either auction, raffle or table gift items are advised to contact Judy Pullyblank or Robert Parker at the Foundation Office on 03 9499 6228 or by email info@adctf.org.au. Significant items of particular interest are wine, travel, accommodation and items of memorabilia for the Silent Auction. Your generosity will be acknowledged in promotional material generated for the day and any assistance is greatly appreciated.

Any function booking enquiries can be directed to Judy at the Foundation office - to info@adctf.org.au or (03).9499 6228.



Annual General Meeting – Note the Change of Date

Due to a clash of dates with the Newcombe Medal Dinner conducted by Tennis Australia, which will preclude the availability of our President Neale Fraser and limit our special guest opportunities, the 43rd Annual General Meeting of The Australian Davis Cup Tennis Foundation will now be held at the Royal South Yarra Lawn Tennis Club, Williams Road North, Toorak at 8.00pm on **Thursday 27th November 2014**.

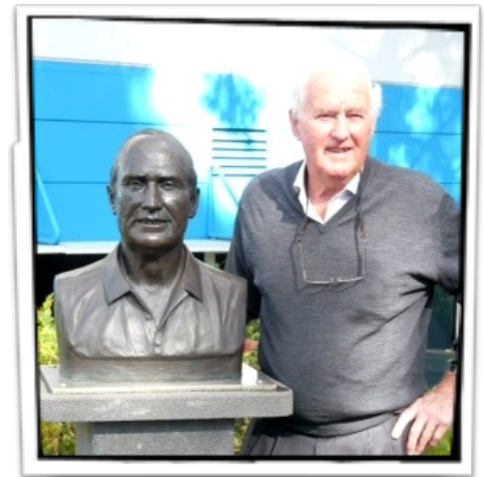
A highlight of the evening will be the introduction of our special guest following the formalities of the evening and as usual a light supper and refreshments will be served, allowing members to catch up and renew acquaintances.

Melbourne Park Tour

Our President Neale Fraser has indicated a willingness to lead a further tour of Melbourne Park in October/November and details will be circulated when arrangements are finalised. Meanwhile any expression of interest can be directed to Judy on 94996228.

Our web site – a powerful resource and wealth of information

Our web site www.adctf.org had been repaired and upgraded following some hacking and is now providing a valuable resource for members, displaying ticketing advice, function booking forms, Annual Report publications, Davis Cup results and historical records, along with our corporate requirements including the Constitution.



Membership opportunity – invite a friend to join

Our Foundation President, Neale Fraser AO MBE invites tennis enthusiasts to join with him in supporting a brighter future for Australian Davis Cup tennis.

The Foundation was formed in September 1971 with the object of providing support for our Davis Cup teams and a policy has emerged of funding the development of young players with Davis Cup potential.

At a cost of **\$70 per annum**, in addition to supporting our objectives, membership of the Foundation offers a number of other benefits:

1. Opportunity to apply for tickets for events controlled by Tennis Australia including the Australian Open at Melbourne Park. (Restrictions & conditions may apply) with two complimentary ground passes.
2. Opportunity to apply for tickets for all Australian Davis Cup matches played. (Restrictions and conditions may apply, depending on venue capacity and location)
3. Purchase Foundation merchandise including a distinctive Davis Cup tie for men, Davis Cup scarf for women and a Davis Cup cap.
4. Periodic Newsletters that include commentary on the progress and development of our aspiring Davis Cup players, a regular online eNews, access to a comprehensive web site www.adctf.org, activities of the Foundation and the Annual Report booklet
5. Priority access to the Sydney Apia International and Brisbane International Tournaments.
6. Participate in tours organised for members to overseas and interstate Australian Davis Cup ties,
7. To attend with guests the annual Australian Open Luncheon at the MCC a happy members occasion.

To download an application for membership form visit our web site www.adctf.org and scroll down to **Membership/Membership Form** or contact the Administration on 03 9499 6228.

Graeme Cumberae-Stewart retires as Secretary

Graeme Cumberae-Stewart OAM retired as ADCTF Secretary at the conclusion of the May Board Meeting, noting his recent health issues, but we are pleased he will stay on as a Director. We are fortunate that Graeme's expertise and experience will still be available for us to draw upon, following a career of over 55 years in tennis administration.

Over the years Graeme and his wife Helene have attended a number of Australia's overseas Davis Cup ties and, like so many of us, he still longs for the return of Australia's glory days of continuing Davis Cup success.

We thank Graeme for his significant contribution to the Foundation as our Honorary Secretary.



Graeme Williams retires after 37 years

Graeme Williams retired from the Board at the Directors meeting on Monday 19 May 2014 after 37 years of service to the Foundation, the past 8 years as Vice President.

Residing in Geelong, Graeme was a busy Fellow of the Royal Institute of Architects but found the time to make a valuable contribution to his community, especially in the area of sport.

As a Board member since November 1977 we have appreciated Graeme's wise counsel on all manner of sporting matters. Graeme was recognised for his service to the Foundation at a Valedictory Dinner hosted by President Neale Fraser at the Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club in May.



Harry gets his wish

15 year-old Harry Roker (pictured at right with Thanasi Kokkinakis and Nick Kyrgios) a junior from Willison Park Tennis Club in Melbourne, was granted his Starlight Children's Foundation wish to meet the Australian Davis Cup Team. He was at the draw ceremony on Cottesloe Beach where he had his picture taken with team members, having previously had the thrill of having a hit with some of the players.

The Foundation gave Harry an ADCTF Cap and a complimentary membership, and he was later spotted amongst the Fanatics singing along with them and becoming thoroughly involved in the Davis Cup tie. It must have been quite an experience for Harry and his family!

