

23 February, 2011

Serving up 100 years of Tennis!

Tennis Townsville is celebrating its 100th year in 2011. From its humble beginnings in 1911, as the Townsville Lawn Tennis Association, it has successfully provided hours of fun and fitness to many generations of Townsvillians. In 1995, the Association changed its name to Tennis Townsville Inc and it has grown into a solid, vibrant Association.



*Tennis Townsville Junior Player, Lachlan Kern
and Tennis Townsville President, Vic Bayer.*

Lawn Tennis was not played or even thought of in Queensland until 1875, when R. H. Rose MA, of Brisbane Grammar School came out from England to take up his appointment and brought with him a lawn tennis set. Later that year the Brisbane Lawn Tennis Club was formed. This was the stepping stone for many clubs around Queensland and by 1888 there were courts in Townsville and the surrounding regions.

Tennis Townsville's President Vic Bayer said "the Association is held in high regard in the tennis sector. This has been reflected in the tournaments run by the club, its involvement in the running of the 2 Davis Cup ties held in Townsville, its strong membership base of over 500 members and its recognition as Tennis Queensland's Affiliate Club of the Year in 2009. Each year the NQ Open, The NQ Wheelchair Open and NQ Junior Age Championships are held at Tennis Townsville."

Coordinator of the Centenary Celebrations, Michael Kern, said that "Tennis Townsville wants to make its centenary year a memorable one and wants to involve not only its members but also the local schools and community at large. The weekend of the 5th to the 7th of August has been set down for our formal celebrations"

"It will be an opportunity for members to reflect on the changes in the game and learn some of the history of the club." "Planning is underway for a weekend of memorable celebrations to mark this special anniversary." Mr Kern said 'We're very excited and proud we're celebrating our club's 100 years this year. It's a remarkable achievement and the organising committee and I will ensure we can provide the community with some exciting activities such as a Coaching Clinic run by a tennis legend for schoolchildren, a Centenary Tournament, Gala Dinner and Family Fun Day'. "You might even see some lawn tennis played over the weekend" said Mr Kern

"A publication is also being put together to mark this special event. The publication will include a compilation of Tennis Townsville's history together with photos and memorabilia "

"Tennis Townsville is reaching out to the community and asks that if anyone has any photos, memorabilia (including old tennis racquets, we might be able to use for the centenary celebrations, to please contact either Pauline Shield or Karolien Selen at Tennis Townsville on 4721 5129 or by email to tennis@tennistownsville.org"

"We would also really like to get in touch with our surviving Life Members or their families to get a hold of any photos/information."

Life Members

W Thurling	A S McNaught	W Hair
Mrs W Bussey	J McDougall	Angus Smith OBE
T Hughes	Mrs G Hughes	H Jalland
W. E Wheeler	S Goldring	Mrs M Farren
A J O'Neill	Peg Johnston	Gary Smith
Mrs Ros Olssen		

Vic Bayer, club President has been a part of the club for 15 years and very honored to be here whilst we celebrate our centenary year. Vic Bayer said "Tennis Townsville has 4 different junior programs, adult fixtures, adult group coaching, social tennis and cardio tennis. With such a strong activity schedule, we're hoping the club will only grow and be around for another 100 year. The Centenary celebration is a very significant historic occasion for the club."

Tennis Townsville is hard at work ensuring the centenary celebrations will be an event that the tennis community will not easily forget about. Visit the Tennis Townsville website, www.tennistownsville.org to stay tuned for more details.



Serving up 100 years of Tennis

-ends-

Windmill Bricklaying **North Queensland Open Championships** 30 April - 1 May
Xstrata NEC **North Queensland Wheelchair Championships** 29 April - 1 May
Bernie Lanigan Optometrist **Tennis Townsville Championships** 25 - 26 June
Ergon Energy **North Queensland Junior Age Championships** 25 - 27 September

For further information visit
www.tennistownsville.org

Media Contact:

Tennis Townsville, Business Development & Marketing Manager, Karolien Selen
Ph: (07) 4721 5129 or email: marketing@tennistownsville.org