



...from our CLUB CAPTAINS

Rob & Robin June 2015

PRESIDENT: Bruce Carlsson
TREASURER: David Theyers

VICE PRESIDENT: Murray Billington
SECRETARY: Bev Billington

CLUB CAPTAINS: Rob & Robin Denton
COMMITTEE: Don Matheson, Alastair Pearce, Bryn Williams, Gloria Wilmot.

VICE CLUB CAPTAIN: Lew Hood

South Auckland Match- 3 May

On Sunday 3rd May we had a closely fought battle against South Auckland. As usual Dick Garrett had trouble getting a full team, but managed to come with only 1 lady and 1 man short after a sad day for their team on the day before. One of their ladies who was to play suddenly passed away, so it was touch and go as to whether they would come at all. The weather was superb and the match was played in good spirit. After the doubles LNSC was 1 game up, so it was game on with the result resting on the mixed doubles. The first round resulted in South Auckland winning 5 out of the 6 matches so the final result rested on the last games. With some closely fought games we came out with a draw 18-18 which was a very fair result, considering the high standard of play. We would like to thank Bryn for his untimely patience and his great organisation skills for the day. Also thanks to Bev and Des who kindly stepped in at the last moment to help South Auckland out.

Open Tournament 16-17 May

Our Open Tournament attracted players from a wide area, as far south as Putaruru and as far north as Kerikeri. The weather was mostly kind to us with a beautiful day on Saturday, but the odd shower on Sunday. However we managed to complete all matches in good time.



A huge thankyou to our hard working organising committee of **Murray, Bev, Margaret, Don, David and Bruce** who as usual did a superb job, and also to our Squash members who provided the food and to all those who worked in the kitchen keeping us fed and watered all weekend.



In **Section 1** Penny Smith teamed with Sandy Tritt to win the Ladies' Doubles yet again, while **Debbie Beveridge** was runner-up playing with Annie Hawaikirangi from South Auckland.

Margaret Kinder and **Keiko Pogoni** were winners of the Consolation Plate.

Paul and John White were our only success in the Men's Doubles Section One winning the Plate. We had no pairings in the Mixed Doubles in this section.

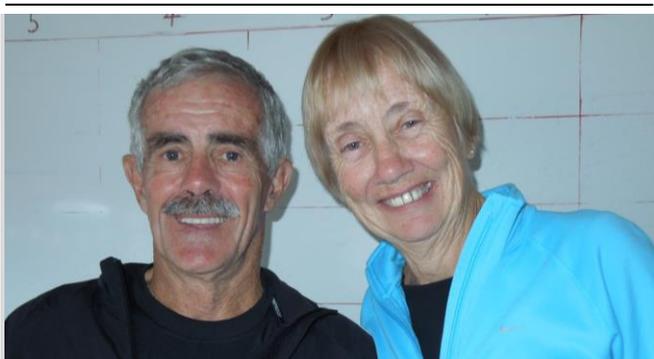
The standard of play this year was exceptionally high due to the fact that many of the players are travelling to The World Champs in June.



Section 2 was a different story success wise.

Robin Denton and **Diana Wyatt** won the Ladies' Doubles with **Sue Bigwood** partnered by Audrey Notter being runners-up.

Murray Billington and Alan Dickey were Championship runners-up in the Men's Doubles, and **Robbie Blair** partnered by Mark Fielding won the Championship Consolation Plate.



In the **Mixed Doubles** Don Matheson and Robin Denton beat Murray Billington and Diana Wyatt to win the Championship with Debbie Beveridge and Mark Fielding winning the Championship Consolation Plate. Rob Denton and Wendy Crow-Jones were winners of the Plate. Bryn Williams and Joyce Pyle were winners of the Consolation Plate.

In **Section 3** Alastair Pearce with Jan Bottema were Championship Runners-up, with Bryn Williams and Bruce Carlsson winning the Championship Consolation Plate. Kevin and Lew Hood were winners of the Consolation Plate.



In the **Mixed Doubles** Des Sharp and Margaret Marr were once again the winners after some very long and hard fought matches. Al Pearce and Karen Stewart were Championship runners-up.



*Thanks Kaye and kitchen hands. Great food!!
Great work Evelyn with the nibbles.*



Thanks to all those who donated items for the raffle. We made a profit from the raffles of \$493 -the largest ever.

V Whangarei-

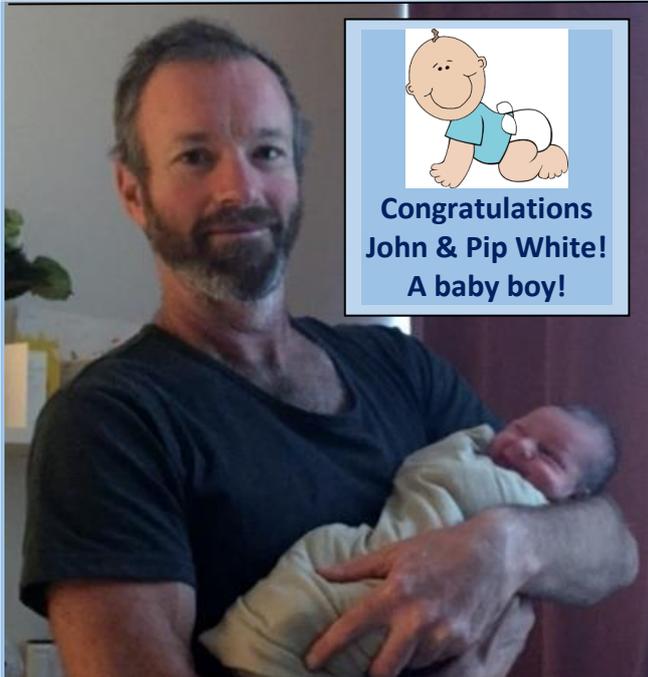
26 May

Report by Bruce Carlsson ...

Whangarei Match Convener

The weather forecast for the day proposed a ridge of high pressure over the upper North Island, with the possibility of the odd passing shower, mainly in the West. Yesterday was reasonably OK, so we expected today to be fine. It wasn't. A light shower passed quickly by around 8:30 as Don raked the leaves off the court and we began to get set up for the match. Then another one, and another, and another, followed by a clear patch. Sigh of relief! Our guests arrived around 9am and were welcomed by a good gathering of our Lower North contingent and scones baked by Mike, with hot tea and coffee set up by Monique, ready for their arrival.

We got under way just after 9:30, when another shower passed, followed by a downpour. One of the Whangarei men tore a calf muscle in his first game, but soldiered on in silence. As puddles began to collect on the lower courts, we wondered how long it would be long before players would start coming off. They didn't. The puddles got bigger, and more plentiful. We thought the men on the lower courts would certainly abandon their match. They didn't, The 12 intrepid campaigners toughed it out on the lower courts until the bell rang, and then headed for their bags and a good towelling off. The ladies on the upper



**The proud father with Edward Robert Kerr.
Looks to be favouring the left hand
-another Rafa maybe!**

courts took the showers equally stoically, but didn't have the puddles to contend with. Yet. Then the rain stopped, and it became sunny again.

We got the second six pairs of doubles under way while the going was good, if a bit damp underfoot. A service into a puddle guaranteed the server an ace. There were lots of aces on the lower courts. As the slot progressed, more showers passed above. The lower courts became wetter still, and now puddles started forming on the upper courts. Play continued like this until we broke for lunch at 1:00, with the doubles and reverse doubles completed. Forty-eight slightly bedraggled players eagerly tucked into a plentiful and sumptuous lunch of savouries, sandwiches, filled rolls, quiches, cakes and plenty of man food. We ate heartily. The courts drained, and we looked forward to the combines matches and a better day.

Then it rained again. A real cloudburst this time! Our courts were once again a water polo venue, but out everyone went, undaunted. Defiant and determined not to let a few drops of rain spoil the day. Our resolve prevailed, and the rain eased off, leaving the courts more and more playable as the afternoon progressed. There was no room for complacency, though. Just as we thought the showers were over, they began again and persisted until the match was over. Then out chimed the sun.

Everyone's dogged determination was indicative of the spirit that ruled the day. In spite of the lousy weather, everyone appeared to have a good time.

In the end, we prevailed, with a 20 – 14 win, with two matches drawn. Our Alastair and Mike got an extra match each when they subbed for the injured opponent, so all matches were played out, and no one was denied.

It was a great day. The helpers who assisted with the food presentation did us proud, and then some. We now have a subtext to the match for our future fixtures against them. The real battle is no longer on the courts, but on the food table. So bring it on!

Bruce



**Look who Murray bumped into at Hamilton!
Femmy Strickett, a LNSTC member from 1989-
1994 and 2000-2003.**



**50 years married!
Congratulations to Don & Margaret Matheson.
They haven't changed a bit!**

*Well done to David Theyers who will
represent NZ in the 70+ ITF World Team
Champs in Croatia in October.*

.....Rob and Robin