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1. New head coach and new office administrator appointed (see <http://www.rlta.org.au/>)

The RLTA management committee have now appointed two people to try to fill the large shoes left behind by Jeff Schneider on his departure to the UK and coaching in the world of touring tennis professionals.

The new head coach is Jani Kroyherr. Jani is 26 years of age, has national and international experience with highly ranked players and has an excellent track record in junior development. His coaching credentials are impeccable: he is an Advanced Level coach with Tennis Coaches Australia, is a qualified Professional coach with USPTR, and is a qualified VicFIT Gym instructor. Jani is "jumping out of his skin" at the opportunity presented to him at the RLTA and has already arranged for two series of school holiday clinics (see below), the first of which starts on January 12. These are a great way to meet (and assess) the new coach before regular coaching begins. His first week of regular coaching classes will begin on January 24. Jani can be contacted by email (jani@rlta.org.au) or by phone on **0412-786-525**.



Jani Kroyherr at the RLTA

The new office administrator is Betty McCoy. Betty is a life member of the RLTA, has served many years on the management committee (currently as club secretary), and has been junior fixture coordinator for the past 16 years. Her new role as the office administrator is to formally take over the myriad of club-related tasks for which Jeff previously had responsibility. As the position is part-time and we will be reliant on a number of helpers to ensure that the club continues to function smoothly.

2. New clubhouse on track (see <http://www.users.on.net/~rlta/redevelopment.htm>)

The new clubhouse is right on track to be finished by April this year. By Christmas it had reached lock-up stage as promised by Steve Bell the builder. All is going to plan, and now that the roof is on, weather should not be a factor that could delay its completion. For those of you who have not noticed, it is one of our former juniors Chris Barwick, who is doing most of the carpentry. It's a small world!



*Scott, Steve, Shane & Chris
the Building team*

3. Holiday coaching clinics (see <http://www.users.on.net/~rlta/coach/index.htm>)

As mentioned earlier, our new coach Jani Kroyherr is conducting holiday clinics this January at the RLTA centre to provide students and parents with an obligation-free opportunity to meet the new coach. These will be conducted for two separate age groups, pee wee (5-8 yrs) and intermediate (9-15 yrs), at different times on each day. The Pee Wee Clinic is based around co-ordination skills and stroke development. The intermediate clinic is based around the S.M.S.H.R. program (the 5 steps of the technical chain). Everyone is invited to attend at least one of the days at no cost whatsoever.

The first series are being held Wed 12, Thu 13 & Fri 14 January 2005.

The second series are being held Wed 19, Thu 20 & Fri 21 January 2005.

For more information, contact Jani on **0412-786-525** or by email on jani@rlta.org.au



Jani and friends at the first of the clinics.

4. Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting of the RLTA will be held at the clubhouse at 1.00 pm on Saturday 29th January 2005. Please come along and show and interest in and support for your club. If you are interested in nominating for a position on the executive or simply serving on the management committee, there will be appropriate forms on the club noticeboard, or you can contact Betty on 3821 0337 for a nomination form.

A copy of the annual report can be downloaded from our web site. Members who are so inclined are welcome to free tennis in the afternoon following the meeting.

5. Membership dues (see <http://www.users.on.net/~rlta/membership.htm>)

Members are reminded that membership fees should be paid by the first week of the tennis season (from 5 February). These fees are \$65 for adults and \$45 for juniors and include the Tennis Queensland levy of \$23 per person. This year, these fees are to be paid to Betty McCoy in the RLTA office.

6. New season dates

Tennis fixtures will be starting for most competitions in early February. The exact dates will vary for each competition and your fixture coordinators will notify you. In most cases, there is at least one social hit prior to fixtures starting.

7. Promoting your club (see <http://www.users.on.net/~rlta/fixtures.htm>)

With the new clubhouse, this year is especially exciting for the RLTA. It is a great club, but one of the best-kept secrets in the Redlands. To help make the club whatever we want it to be, we need to continue to promote it to our tennis-playing friends as a wonderful place to meet new people in a friendly atmosphere where tennis provides a common healthy focus. Despite the population increase in the Redlands, our membership has actually decreased slightly over the past couple of years. Remember that word of mouth is the most cost-effective marketing tool that we have to build membership. And we need to build membership if we are to have more consistent standards in graded fixtures.

8. De fence

For those of you have been past the club in the past few days will probably have noticed that the southern fence on courts 2 & 3 has an interesting new shape. The new shape is the result of an unfortunate altercation with a vehicle that was travelling too fast down Smith Street and failed to take the corner into Long Street. The damage will be repaired compliments of the young driver's third party insurance, as soon as we can find fencing contractors back from holidays and willing to quote.

