

BTA JANUARY NEWSLETTER



AGNICO EAGLE
FOSTERVILLE

JAN 2024



THANK YOU

Welcome to 2024, and thank you for all of your support through 2023.

The Bendigo Regional Tennis Centre and the Bendigo Tennis Association have great plans for this year and would of course love you all to be involved.

We currently have 4 tournaments scheduled and will also be hosting the 2024 Victoria State Masters in December which is really exciting.

We already have many functions booked up until November and are actively working to get other exciting events at the venue.

Wishing you all the best in 2024.

Cheers

ally

About me. . . .

What's your name and position with the BTA?

Barry Green, President.

How long have you had that position?

Five years.

Why are you passionate about your role?

I am passionate about all sport and getting people active. I am keen to develop tennis through the provision of new opportunities for people to enjoy the sport across central Victoria through assisting clubs and local government to provide quality facilities close to where people live.

Do you have a tennis background?

Yes I have played tennis for over 50 years including seven years in Melbourne pennant. I have been an administrator at both club and association level for approximately 15 years at varying times. I have been a qualified tennis coach with both TCAV and TCA for over 38 years.

What are your interests outside of tennis?

Cricket as I am on the committee and coach with Carlton Cricket Club, predominantly the female program
Furthering the development and quality of sporting facilities, particularly for women's sport
Golf when I get the chance
Good wine and craft beers
Building and renovating
Music



What is something about you that people wouldn't know?

I am a long-suffering Tottenham Hotspur supporter in the English Premier League until Ange arrived.



@bendigotennisassociation



@bendigotenniscentre



bendigotennis.com.au

INTRODUCING OUR NEW COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

President



Barry Green

Vice President



Frank Hill

Treasurer



Jayden Muller

Secretary



Allison Gook

Committee Members



Danielle Bowles



Jayd Davis



Anthony Day



Mark Perdon



Phillip Truscott



Cathy Ward

weekly tennis

Monday Morning

Veterans Tennis

Wednesday Morning

Ladies Competition

Wednesday Evening

Wednesday Mixed

Thursday Morning

Ladies Competition

Thursday Evening

Thursday Open

Friday Afternoon

Juniors

Saturday Morning

Juniors

Saturday Afternoon

Seniors Pennant

affiliated clubs

- Bendigo Tennis Club
- Castlemaine Tennis Club
- Ironbark Tennis Club
- Kyneton Tennis Club
- Maiden Gully Tennis Club
- South Bendigo Tennis Club
- Spring Gully Tennis Club
- Strathfieldsaye Tennis Club
- Strathdale Park Tennis Club
- Woodvale Tennis Club

Information for 2024

Wednesday Ladies

Will recommence on 31st January 2024. Finals commence on the 20th March 2024.

Wednesday Mixed

Commencing 31st January, 2024

Thursday Ladies

Will recommence on 1st February 2024. Finals commence on the 21st March 2024.

Thursday Open

Commencing 1st February, 2024.

Fosterville Gold Junior Pennant

Will recommence on 2nd February 2024. Finals commence on the 15th March 2024.

Fosterville Gold Senior Pennant

Will recommence on 13th January 2024. Finals commence on the 16th March 2024.

Australian Open 2024

Sunday 14th January - Sunday 28th January



CHRISTMAS RAFFLE



Thank you for your support

Christmas Raffle Sponsors



Hair Chi



RISING SUN



Christmas Raffle Winners

1	Lynette Sommerfeld	17	Eli Kingma
2	Hayley Tibbett	18	Jason Priestley
3	Jan Woodhatch	19	Alex Dixon
4	Scott Griffiths	20	Rob Stephenson
5	Neel	21	David Mellor
6	Kath McMahon	22	Jenny Kelly
7	Monica Muller	23	Anthony Day
8	Jan Woodhatch	24	Anne Marie
9	Harry Lyons	25	Barden Murley
10	Valda Gook	26	Merryn White
11	Dianne Keating	27	Gloria Baldwinson
12	Wendy Lehman	28	Marlene Jenkyn
13	Sheryle Watson	29	Leonie Gallagher
14	Jason Priestley	30	Ken Stent
15	Jenny Holburn	31	Lucas Ding
16	Mary Semmens	32 - 35	Cailin Green, Robyn Murphy, Carla Langley, Lisa Parkinson

Bendigo December Cup Junior & Open Event

8-10 December, 2023

From the 4th to 6th November, the Bendigo Regional Tennis Centre hosted the Melbourne Cup Junior & Open Event. This Tournament may have had less numbers than our September Tournament, however the competition didn't disappoint. With perfect weather, we were very lucky to see some incredible tennis and were amazed by the talent on display.

Results from the tournament were:

Mens Open Singles Main Draw

Ren Asai defeated Jack Bassett
7-6 7-6

Mens Open Matchplay Singles

Lewis Murray defeated Davis Alexander
6-3 6-1

Mens Open Doubles

Jack Bassett / Brendan Liddell defeated
Matthew Allen / Sam Allen
6-3 6-1

Boys U14 Singles Main Draw

Aditya Thakur defeated Henry Seeber
6-3 6-3

Boys U14 Matchplay Singles

Hamish McNaughton defeated Hugo Gray
6-0 6-0

Boys U14 Doubles

Hamish McNaughton / Aditya Thakur defeated
Jeremy Kay / Harry Seeber

Boys U12 Singles Main Draw

Arham Tariq defeated Liam Tarrant
6-4 6-4

Boys U12 Matchplay Singles

Aydin Yazici defeated Tyson Vo
6-3 6-4

Boys U12 Doubles

Aarav Makadia / Arham Tariq defeated
Jabob Eddy / Aydin Yazici

Womens Open Singles Main Draw

Isabella Crossman defeated Kerrie Clarke
6-1 6-0

Womens Open Matchplay Singles

Tamara Pudelka defeated Rhiann Eddy
7-5 6-3

Womens Open Doubles

Kerrie Clarke / Isabella Crossman defeated
Rhiann Eddy / Samantha Hill
6-3 6-0

Girls U14 Singles

Aarya Nori defeated Emily Liddell

Girls U14 Doubles

Emily Liddell / Suranjana Rathish Maanam
defeated
Aarya Nori / Amelia Quintana
6-2 6-4

Girls U12 Singles Main Draw

Amra Fleming defeated Skylar Austin
7-5 6-0

Girls U12 Matchplay Singles

Ava Walkenhorst defeated Amelia Quintana
0-6 7-6 10-7

Girls U12 Girls Doubles

Chloe Liddell / Amra Fleming defeated
Tayla Starling / Temperance Thu

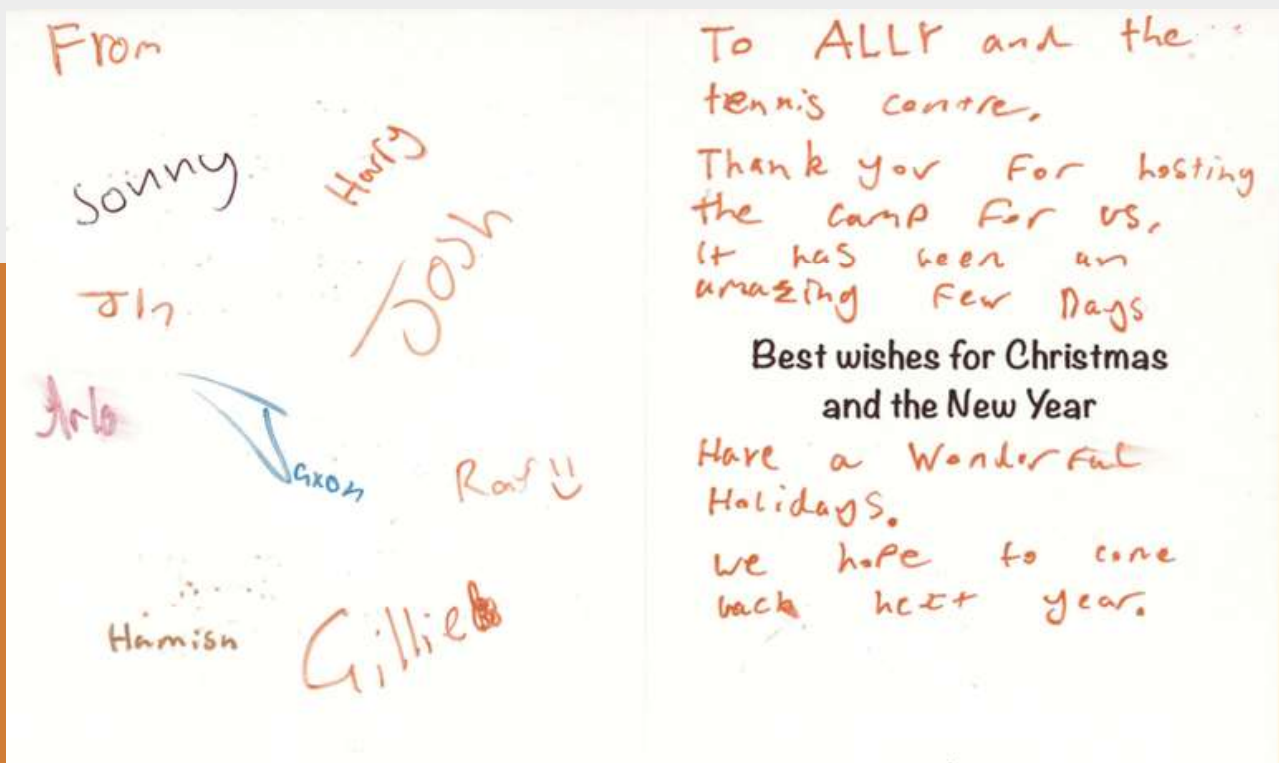
Congratulations to all of the competitors on
such a great job

AUSTRALIAN JUNIOR WHEELCHAIR TENNIS CAMP

Bendigo Tennis Centre played host to Tennis Australia's National Junior Wheelchair Camp, from Dec 7-9th, 2023. The camp brought together ten of the top junior wheelchair tennis players from around the country to take part in a targeted development camp to prepare the players for the Australian Wheelchair Summer Series in January. Australia has qualified a Junior Team to compete at the 2024 World Team Cup which will take place in Antalya, Türkiye in May 2024. This camp also served as preparations for Australian junior wheelchair players in the lead-up to next year's World Team Cup.

National Wheelchair Development Coach, Greg Crump, led the camp alongside former Australian Paralympian, Anthony Bonaccorso, who won a Bronze medal in the Men's Doubles event at the 2004 Athens Paralympic Games.

All of the players and the coaching team involved loved our Centre and all of the catering that we did.



24 HOUR TENNIS MARATHON

The Marathon commenced by being launched at 10.30am on Friday 8th December. John Fitzgerald, Mayor Andrea Metcalf and organiser Louise Pleming spoke about the cause and how grateful they are for all of the participants.

For the last 2 hours of the rally, Storm Hunter and Nicole Pratt joined the team and lit up the court.



MEDIA

For our 4 days, we generated quite a lot of Media interest.

I had radio interviews with: • Phoenix FM, • ABC & • Triple M

I spoke to the following television stations: • Win TV, • Channel 9, • Channel 7

We had WIN TV here to cover the Rally4Ever and had the following articles in the Newspaper:

Bendigo Regional Tennis Centre to host massive four day carnival



Bendigo Regional Tennis Centre manager Allison Gook is thrilled to be hosting four huge days of tennis action starting Thursday. Picture by Darren Howe

A monster four days of tennis action will be held at the Bendigo Regional Tennis Centre starting Thursday. There will be tournaments, Australian team camps, star appearances and even the Australian Open Cup.

Fans can be in the presence of the famous silverware as it tours Victoria as part of Tennis Australia's "AO on the Road" in the leadup to the Australian Open.

The trophies will be on display at the BRTC from 11.30am to 1.00pm on Thursday to kickstart the carnival of tennis.

Fans are welcome to pose for photos with the trophies.

Former professional and ex-professional players Storm Hunter, Zoe Hives and Nicole Pratt will be strutting their stuff on the courts for a worthwhile cause.

The trio adds some star power for the Impact Recovery-Rally4Ever 24-hour Tennis Marathon commencing at 10.30am on Friday.

Seven-time grand slam doubles winner John Fitzgerald and Bendigo Mayor Andrea Metcalf will officially open the event.

The event aims to support mental and physical wellbeing, help prevent homelessness and bring freedom from addiction.

"This weekend is a terrific opportunity for the public to come along and support all the players involved," BRTC manager Allison Gook said.

"It is such an honour for our venue to be selected to host these important events and to use our platform to help make a difference in the local community.

"We will be inviting our major sponsor, Agnico Eagle (Fosterville Gold), to draw our first ever Christmas Raffle on December 9, which has over \$8000 in prizes, including tickets to the Australian Open, Accommodation, and Tennis Racquets."

The BRTC will hold their December Junior and Open Tournaments from Friday to Sunday, showcasing over 200 players ranging from the Open division to Under-10s.

Running parallel Tennis Australia's National Junior Wheelchair Camp will be hosted by the BRTC across the weekend.

Ten of the best junior wheelchair tennis players in Australia will be in attendance as they prepare for the Australian Wheelchair Summer Series in January.

The Centre is also on the lookout for volunteers over the weekend or at upcoming events. "We are now in a position where we would like to offer opportunities for Volunteers to join our team and become a part of the Bendigo Tennis Association family," Gook said.

"There are a wide range of areas where we can assist our volunteers to gain experience, learn new skills and to create opportunities."

Bendigo tennis fans welcome Australian Open trophies



Val Gook gets her photo taken with the Australian Open Men's and Women's trophies. Picture by Darren Howe

Bendigo tennis fans got the chance to hold and pose with some of the sport's most cherished pieces of silverware on Thursday.

The Australian Open Men's and Women's trophies were displayed at the Bendigo Regional Tennis Centre, with locals having the opportunity to get a photo with the prized items.

The visit was a part of Tennis Australia's 'AO on the Road' tour, which has visited more than 20 communities across regional Victoria in the leadup to the Australian Open in January 2024.

Former Davis Cup captain John Fitzgerald - who'll be in attendance at the BRTC on Friday - said the tour is a great way to show off the Victorian tennis community.

"AO on the Road is a fantastic initiative," he said.

"It brings the prestige and excitement of the AO to regional areas while showcasing Victoria's incredible tennis communities who do so much important work."

The presence of the trophies was only the start of a big four days at the BRTC. Fitzgerald will be a guest of honour on Friday along with Bendigo Mayor Andrea Metcalf for the official opening of the Impact Recovery-Rally4Ever 24-hour Tennis Marathon at 10.30am.

This charity tennis event will have famous Australian players, past and present, including Storm Hunter, Zoe Hives, and Nicole Pratt, participating.

The BRTC will also hold its December Junior and Open Tournament across the weekend, showcasing over 200 players, while a National Junior Wheelchair Camp, which brings together ten of the top junior wheelchair players from across the country, will run concurrently.

Inspiring Kaplan uses Bendigo as base for Australian Open debut



Ahmet Kaplan in training at the Bendigo Regional Tennis Centre this week. Pictures by Adam Bourke

A beaming smile, a booming forehand and a story that's hard not to be inspired by.

Meet Ahmet Kaplan - a Turkish wheelchair tennis player who has called Bendigo home this week as he prepares for his Australian Open debut in Melbourne later this month.

The 22-year-old faces a tough task to win the Australian Open at his first attempt, but overcoming adversity is nothing new for Kaplan.

He's been in a wheelchair since the age of eight after an "electricity accident" saw him lose the use of both legs and he lost a finger on his right hand.

Kaplan spent six months in hospital.

Rather than let the horrific injuries rule his life, Kaplan, with the support of family and friends, set about building a new life.

Sport, in particular, tennis became a driving force for him.

"I started playing wheelchair basketball and then I started wheelchair tennis," Kaplan said this week.

"I didn't know if I'd like tennis because it was more difficult and you're by yourself on the court and it's not a team game.

"I got used to tennis and now I love it."

He travels the world playing tennis and Bendigo - his first stop in 2024 - is a key part of what he hopes will be his most successful season yet.

"It's really exciting because it's my first time in Australia and the Australian Open will be my second Grand Slam tournament," he said.

"The US Open last year was a great experience, it was unbelievable and an amazing time for me.

"It's really good here (in Bendigo), the courts are great and I have a friend here that we can stay with.

"We've been here for a week and then we head to Melbourne to play two tournaments before the Australian Open.

"We've been putting in hours and hours of work. Not just tennis, but gym as well, because I need to get better."

Kaplan has worked his way to a world quad singles ranking of 14 and he has his heart set on creating history for his native Turkey.

"I really want to go high in Australia because I need more ranking points," he said.

"My number one goal is to play in the Paralympics this year. I want to be the first Turkish player to play in Paralympic competition. I want to make history."

History suggests it would take a brave person to bet against Kaplan achieving his Paralympic dream.

Cheering him on will be the Bendigo tennis community.

"It's amazing to have someone of Ahmet's calibre training here," Bendigo Regional Tennis Centre manager Allison Gook said.

"It's testament to the facilities we have here in Bendigo.

"I'm looking forward to watching Ahmet play in Melbourne and I'm sure the Bendigo community will get behind someone who has travelled all the way from Turkey to use our facilities."



Ahmet Kaplan works on his forehand.



Ahmet Kaplan is ranked number 14 in the world in his division.

The Paris Paralympics are the main target for Ahmet Kaplan in 2024.

68TH INTER-REGIONAL COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS VICTORIA

Bendigo and surrounding areas saw some of our premier tennis players head off to the Benalla Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club to represent team Loddon Campaspe for Victoria's 68th Inter-Regional Country Championships on January 5 to 7 in an effort to retain the crown Loddon Campaspe had achieved in 2023.

The Inter-regionals is a Tennis Victoria tournament whereby the 11 Victorian country regions compete across team and individual events. Held annually, the tournament sees approximately 250 participants take part in what is an historic event now in its 68th year.

The Inter-Regional Country Championships cater for players in U12 to U18 age groups, as well as U25, Open, 30-49 and 50+ age groups in singles, doubles and mixed doubles events.

Loddon Campaspe fell short of retaining the crown finishing 2nd overall on 265.5 points, with Barwon being declared the winners with 303 points. Unfortunately, due to the rainfall on the final day of the championships a few of the double's events had to be abandoned.

Amra Fleming won the U12 Girls Singles final 6-4, 6-3 over An'E Stojcevski (Barwon), while Eli Kingma won the U12 Boys Singles final 7-6, 2-6, 11-9 over Lachlan Rae (Barwon). Amra Fleming & Skylar Austin were declared winners of the U12 Girls Doubles and Eli Kingma & Kade Starling were also declared winners of the U12 Boys Doubles on Game Percentage. Kade Starling & Skylar Austin were declared Runners-Up in the U12 Mixed Doubles.

Rielle Armstrong was Runners-Up in the U14 Girls Singles going down 3-6, 6-3, 10-7 to Lotti Macdonald (Barwon) in the final, and also was declared Runners-Up in the U14 Mixed Doubles with partner Casey Frankl.

In the U16 events, Hayden Sims & Peter Pochettino were declared Runners-Up of the U16 Boys Doubles, and Peter Pochettino & Maliha Dean were declared Runners-Up of the U16 Mixed Doubles.

In the 25 & Under events, Joshua Bavich won the Men's Singles final 6-1, 6-2 over his doubles partner Deagan Tomkins, the two teamed up to win the Men's Doubles final 8-2 over Barwon duo Ryan Lee and Jamie Heaton. While Genevieve Bush won the Women's Singles final 6-2, 6-2 over Sophie Drake (South West) and was declared Runners-Up with Isabella Marchant in the Doubles. Deagan Tomkins & Genevieve Bush were declared the Winners of the Mixed Doubles.

Danielle Bowles won the Womens Singles 30-49 event with a 6-1, 6-3 win in the final over Wimmera's Cheris Wood. Danielle and her sister, Bronwyn Osborne made the final of the Womens Doubles 30-49 but it was abandoned due to the rain.

Brett Marchant made the final of the Mixed Doubles 50+ event with doubles partner, Leanne Moore, but once again rain saw the match cancelled on the final day.



Amra Fleming



Rielle Armstrong



Joshua Bavich



Genevieve Bush



Danielle Bowles



Eli Kingma



Deagan Tomkins &
Joshua Bavich



Amra Fleming &
Skylar Austin



Hayden Sims &
Peter Pochettino



Kade Sterling &
Eli Kingma



Peter Pochettino &
Mahila Dean



Casey Frankl &
Rielle Armstrong



Deagan Tomkins &
Genevieve Bush



Kade Sterling &
Skylar Austin



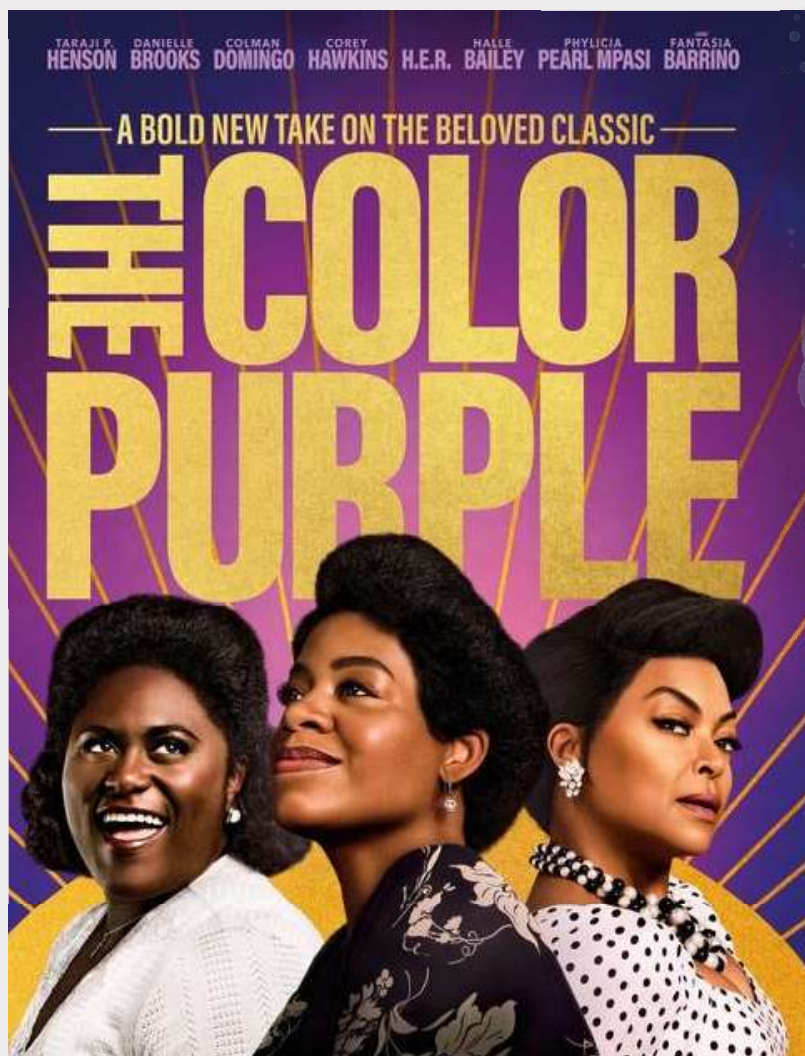
Deagan Tomkins



Isabella Marchant &
Genevieve Bush



Fundraiser



Opening night of The Color Purple

Thursday February 15th

Time: 7pm

**Star Cinema
Eaglehawk Town Hall
2 Peg Leg Road
Eaglehawk**

Tickets: \$22

**Scan QR Code to
book your tickets**



Warner Bros. Pictures invites you to experience the extraordinary sisterhood of three women who share one unbreakable bond in "The Color Purple." This bold new take on the beloved classic is directed by Blitz Bazawule ("Black Is King," "The Burial of Kojo") and produced by Oprah Winfrey, Steven Spielberg, Scott Sanders and Quincy Jones.

**bookings can also be made by calling 5446 2025 between 11am - 3pm
Monday to Friday**

Welcome to



GIANT *Tennis*



COACHING PROGRAMS

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JUNIORS & ADULTS
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HOLIDAY PROGRAMS
CARDIO TENNIS
SQUADS
MATCH PLAY

TERM 1 SCHEDULE 2024



- BENDIGO**
- MAIDEN GULLY**
- MARONG**
- SOUTH BENDIGO**

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
SQUAD	Cardio-kids	SQUAD	SQUAD		SQUAD	MATCH PLAY DAY 9-11AM
Cardio-kids				Cardio-kids		

PLEASE CONTACT US TO DETERMINE THE BEST COACHING OPTION FOR YOU!



HOLIDAY PROGRAM

JANUARY 15th, 16th, 17th, 19th, 22nd, 23rd
BENDIGO REGIONAL TENNIS CENTRE
9.00AM - 1.00PM EACH DAY
\$60 PER DAY, COME TO AS MANY AS YOU LIKE!
TENNIS BASED GAMES & ACTIVITIES
SUITABLE FOR ALL AGES & STANDARDS



Aidan Fitzgerald • 0422 150 911
 aidan@gianttennis.com.au

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Ironbark Tennis Club

We are pleased to announce that Steve Storer has been appointed the Head Coach of Ironbark Tennis Club. He will officially begin on Wednesday the 17th of January. We look forward to a long and productive partnership.

Meet the Coach

On Tuesday the 23rd January commencing @ 5.00 pm, Steve will be at the club to meet the members. This will be followed @ 6.00pm by a PICKLEBALL, PIZZA AND PINOT social event. If you are interested in trying out Pickleball feel free to come to Ironbark from 6.00 pm. Pizza, Pinot, soft drink and water provided along with bats and balls. Try out our two outdoor Pickleball courts.



BENDIGO REGIONAL TENNIS CENTRE

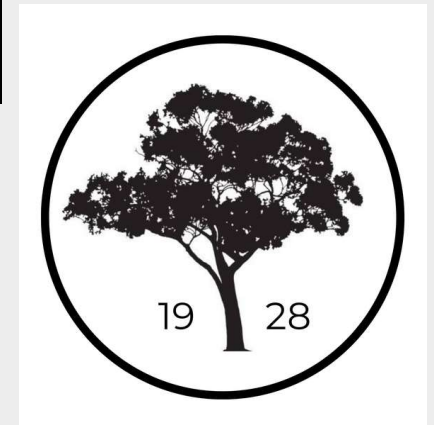
Looking for a Venue?



- Able to fit from 5 people to 250
- 60 on site car parks
- Catering available
- Ideal for parties, get togethers, conferences, business meetings, corporate fun days, social groups
- Licensed bar
- Opposite Lake Weeroona



Contact (03) 5442 5744 or 0422 510 211 for more information



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Association
Affiliated Clubs

Thank you to our Sponsors

Major Sponsor



AGNICO EAGLE
FOSTERVILLE

Platinum Sponsors



Sapphire Sponsors



Silver Sponsors





Let's work together for our future!

Did you know that everyone – including FGM employees, contractors and suppliers – has a role to play in the Environment Effects Statement (EES) process? So, if you haven't heard of it, or don't really know what it is ... now's the time to find out!

Put simply, the Sustained Operations Project EES is about ensuring that the mine can continue to operate for at least the next 10 years.

Here's what has happened so far:

In 2019 we commenced planning to advance our mining operations to previously unmined areas of MIN5404 and provide adequate additional storage space for mine-generated waste products.

The EES for our existing operations was approved in 1996 and, in consultation with regulators, it was determined in 2021 that FGM should undertake a new EES to assess the potential environmental, social and economic impacts of the additional project components required to sustain ongoing operations for the next 10 years.

For a visual representation and summary of the Sustained Operations Project components watch the project fly through video now!



Some quick facts about the EES

- › The purpose of the EES is to inform all stakeholders, including community members, regulatory authorities and YOU, of the potential environmental impacts of the project.
- › The EES scope does not assess current operations but considers cumulative effects relating to our operations.

- › The EES process is not an approval in itself. Instead it enables statutory decision-makers (Ministers, local government and statutory authorities) to decide whether a project should proceed. Learn more about the assessment process here:
- › Everyone can have their say about the EES, including you!



HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO ...

Your support before and during the public exhibition/ public review phase – which is expected to take place in the first half of 2024 – is critical.

To show your support, you can:

Be an ambassador

Share your positive experiences of working at FGM and if someone asks about the Sustained Operations Project EES, guide them towards the information available online or encourage them to contact the Environment and Community Team with any questions. Link on next page!

Make a submission during the public review phase

Everyone can lodge a submission to provide feedback or support for the project. Further information will be provided in 2024.

What happens if the EES is not successful?

If the EES is not successful, the long term future of Fosterville Gold Mine will be at risk.

- › If the Minister for Planning assesses the Sustained Operations Project EES and decides it does not have acceptable level of impact, the long-term future of the Fosterville Gold Mine operation will be at risk.
- › The most critical project component is the need for additional flotation and neutralisation tailings storage (TSF5). You can learn more about our Tailings Storage Facilities here:



- › The processing plant will likely have to reduce tonnage throughput as approved wall raises are completed on TSF1 and TSF4.
- › Then as these storage facilities begin to reach capacity, the processing plant will have to slow down throughput, or batch treat ore until the facilities are full. Shut down of the processing plant will then occur.

Where are we at with the EES as we head into 2024?

We continue preparation of the EES and finalisation of the technical impact assessments. In 2024, the steps below will be completed:

PREPARATION

Once the technical assessments are completed and meet the needs of the Department of Transport and Planning, the regulator overseeing the process, the Minister for Planning authorises exhibition, also known as public review.

PUBLIC REVIEW

- › This is when all the information about the Sustained Operations Project is made available to the public for a period of at least 30 business days.
- › During the exhibition process EVERYONE can provide a written submission outlining their views about the project, for the inquiry panel to consider.
- › Submissions are used by the panel at the hearing to inform recommendations to the planning authority, or Minister for Planning.

- › It's critically important that submissions provide a cross-section of views and speak of the importance of this project to all stakeholders including employees, business partners and the community.

ASSESSMENT

All written submissions – whether they are in support, opposition or neutral to the project, provide an insight to the panel of what stakeholders think of the project. Each submitter also has the opportunity to present at the public hearing if they so wish.

DECISIONS

- › Minister's assessment
- › Consideration of Minister's assessment by statutory decision-makers

Let's work together to achieve an outcome that will secure our future, and benefit our employees, business partners and the community.

Working together.
Caring for community.
Making our home better for everyone.

That's gold!

More information:

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W: fgmcommunity.com.au



Virtual
Consultation
Room (VCR)