

NOTICEBOARD

March 2022



Lane Cove Historical Society Inc

(Affiliated with the Royal Australian Historical Society)

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of Lane Cove the Cammeraygal and show respect to Elders past and present.

PATRON: Mayor Andrew Zbic

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VP, Secretary & Public Officer:

Patricia Madson

VP: Margaret Bergomi

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Convener- Friends of Carisbrook:

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Committee

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Denis Smith

Clio Wallace

Karen Aubrey

Carisbrook Historic House

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Lane Cove 2066

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www.lanecovehistoricalsociety.com.au

www.carisbrookhouse.com

Caretaker: Terry Eakin

Editor: Karen Aubrey



We have three new items of news from the month of February, all worth reporting here. The first is that the new Mayor, Councillor Andrew Zbic, agreed to become the Patron of the Lane Cove Historical Society. From the earliest years of the Society, the Mayor has traditionally served as Patron, and we are pleased to announce that the present Mayor has agreed to continue the tradition.

The second item of news was that the Society organised its Adjourned Annual General Meeting at Carisbrook House on Sunday 13th February. This was an important event because it met the legal requirement that we review and endorse statements of activities over the years 2019-20 and 2020-21, with particular attention to the audited financial statements for those

years. It was a successful day, made the more memorable because it didn't rain, marking a change from other recent days in Lane Cove!

The third item of news was that we reconvened for a General Meeting and Speaker at the Podium on Tuesday 22nd February 2022 in the Lane Cove Library. The last such occasion had occurred on 27th April 2021, when the speaker was Penny Ransby Smith. After that meeting last year, the library was closed, and we all fell under the constraints of Covid. It is a matter of some importance therefore, that we were able to welcome a new Speaker at the Podium for this year, namely Dr. Ian Hoskins, historian of the North Sydney Council. He offered a well-illustrated account of the emergence of the built environment of North Sydney and its environs, from Aboriginal times to the present, showing the ways the landscape had shifted and changed under the impact of European development.

A notice of the next Speaker at the Podium appears at the end of this Noticeboard, so please make a note of the date. We would like to see more people attend next time.

**Frances Christie
President**

Focus on a Member: Toni Dickson



Toni Dickson volunteers at Carisbrook, where she works with Pat Madson maintaining the considerable data base for LCHS. In a former life Toni was personal assistant to Hon Anthony Roberts MP in the NSW State Parliament. She makes a valued contribution to the Society, she also volunteers at Matthew Talbot and enjoys time with her Greyhound.

**Please Note that we have a
new contact phone number:**

0434 757 300



Two important national sports in Australia by Frances Christie

It wouldn't be an Australian summer without the usual cricket and tennis matches which absorb so many of us every year. This summer Australia's sportsmen and women have done us proud. The Australian men's cricket team trounced the visiting English team, retaining the Ashes for another year, while the Australian women's cricket team, though tested by the English in their series, nonetheless also won, and kept the Ashes for their team. Ashleigh Barty triumphed in tennis, for she won the Australian Open, breaking a drought of 44 years, while Thanasi Kokkinakis and Nick Kyriios won the Men's Doubles Championship, also at the Australian Open. By any standards it was a great season.

So where did these two sports come from and what is their enduring appeal? Cricket (once "creckett") developed in England and it was played on the village green by children in the early years of the 16th century, though men took it up as well.

By the 18th century cricket had become a popular sport in London and southern England, while women played it too. In the early days the ball was bowled along the ground and the batsmen used a bat rather like a hockey stick. The rules were amended and regularised in the 18th century and the famous Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) at Lord's has controlled the rules of cricket ever since. Rules governing



the stumps appeared, and the bat became flat, while the ball was to be pitched rather than bowled along the ground. Wherever the British went in expanding their empire they took cricket, and it has flourished ever since in many former colonies- Australia, India, New Zealand, the West Indies, to name a few. Furthermore, while the game can now cost a lot for professional players with expensive bats, balls and even helmets to protect heads on the field, cricket is a game that even the poorest may play. In the streets of India, Pakistan and many African nations, for example, one can see children playing with handmade balls, bats made from fence palings and a wall or even an old oil drum for the wicket.



Tennis has a different history. It derives from a French game *jeu de paume*, meaning "game of the palm", which appeared in 12th century French monasteries, whose members played it by hitting the ball with the palm of the hand. The word tennis emerged in English from the French *tenez*, meaning "hold", "take" or "receive", referring to the attitude of the server when directing a ball to the receiving player. By the 16th century the game had been taken up in England, and

by that time the players were using *racquets*, now also spelt “rackets”. The various scores still used today also reveal their French origins. For example, the word “love” is said to derive from the French *l’oeuf*, meaning “egg” but also denoting zero in a tennis game; to the English speaker its pronunciation sounds a little like “love”, and hence it was adopted. The word “deuce” comes from the French word *deux de jeux*, meaning “two games”, or points. Apparently, the word “ace” emerged in the 18th century from card playing when an ace meant excellence. However, it is also suggested that the term “ace” in tennis came from the World War II practice of naming successful fighter pilots who shot down enemy aircraft as “aces”. Whatever the origin, ability to serve an ace is now regarded as a considerable skill in the tennis world. The range of countries represented in the recent Australian Open is itself a measure of how widely tennis has spread around the world. Overall, the English and the French gave two great games to the world. They flourish today in many countries and both sports continue to give pleasure to many people.

Sources consulted:

<https://sport-net.org/who-hit-most-aces-in-a-tennis-match/>

<https://www.icc-cricket.com/about/cricket/history-of-cricket/early-cricket>

<https://www.britannica.com/sports/tennis>

<https://www.google.com.au/search?q=history+of+tennis>

You could win \$1,000!

Submissions may be

- ★ a video doco of 7-15 minutes
- ★ an essay 5,000-7,000 words
- ★ an oral history of 30-45 minutes on video or audio recording, plus written transcription and short written rationale and summary



The Lane Cove Historical Society

LANE COVE HISTORY PRIZE

Entries close 31 August

www.lanecovehistoricalsociety.com.au

ADJOURNED AGM FEBRUARY 13

Thank you to all those who came along, and a huge thank you to everyone who made it possible. We are thankful that it didn't rain, and very happy that the sun decided to make an appearance.



Around the Ground – what's new at Carisbrook? Blink and you miss them!

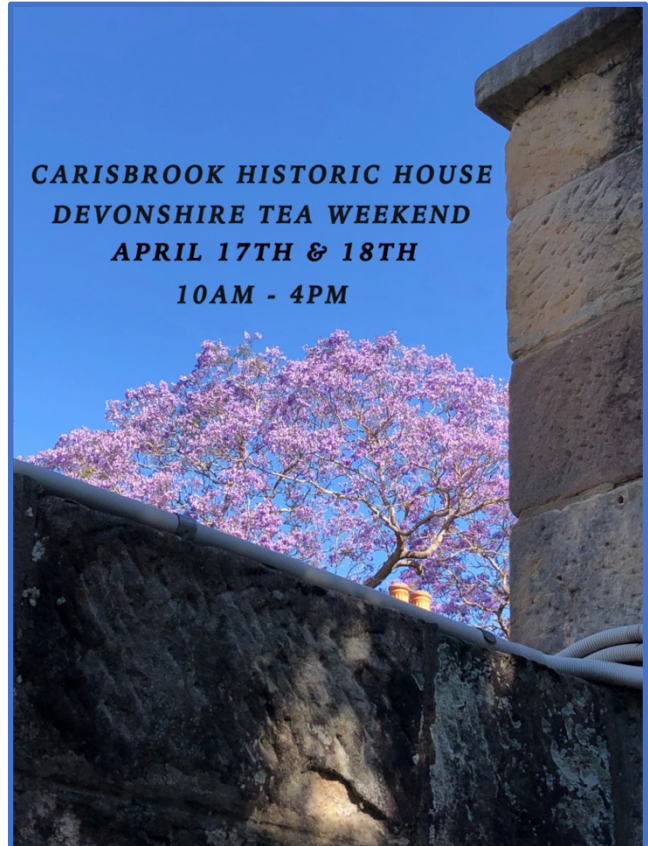
Haemanthus humilii giant X Haemanthus humilii SSP hirsutism
(*Haemanthus* means 'blood flower')



A spider lily of the nerine family group ~ a *Nerine sarniensis*.



Upcoming Events



John Walsh

AT THE PODIUM IN 2022

The woman on the twenty-dollar note



MARY REIBEY

7pm Tuesday, March 22
Lane Cove Library
Enquiries: 0418 276 365

