



O U R 1 0 0 Y E A R S ...

1914 – 20s

1914 A meeting is held at Island Bay School on 5 October 1914 and a decision is made to form the Island Bay Lawn Tennis Club. Mr H Ivory is elected inaugural President.

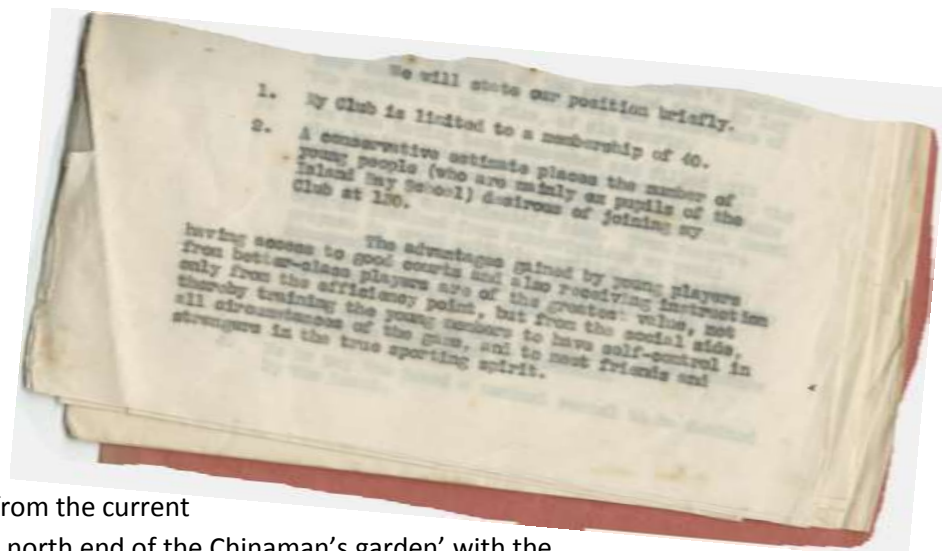
Club opening ceremony is held on Saturday 17 October 1914 at courts located at Victory Park, Island Bay School. Club pays the school £20 per year rent and sets membership fees at 25/- for men and 15/- for ladies.

1920 Club membership numbers 40.

1926 Juniors under the age of 18 are agreed as eligible for membership of the Club 'providing their play is good enough in the opinion of the Committee'.



1929 Lady club members are required to provide 'scones, pikelets but no fancy cake and that tea is to be ready between 3.30 and 4.00pm'. Afternoon tea is funded partly through the sale of old tennis balls.



1929 Club writes to Wellington Education Board proposing the Club moves from the current site at Island Bay School to a new site 'at the north end of the Chinaman's garden' with the Club funding the construction of four to six courts.

1929 A public meeting is held in Island Bay at which the Club agrees to accept the lease offered by the Education Board for the new site, to establish the Club as an incorporated society, and to draw up a constitution. The lease requires the Club to fund and construct three tennis courts and make two courts available for school children. The Club is also required to comply with the Board's by-laws prohibiting Sunday play.



O U R 1 0 0 Y E A R S ...

1930s

1930 Club issues 200 debentures at £5 each to raise money for the new courts. Three hard courts are constructed at the new site by Mr N Draper. The club opens the new courts in December.

1930 Club decides to adopt a dark blue cloth with gold facings for the club blazer. The blazers are to have a monogrammed pocket.

1932 Club membership grows to 80.

1933 Wellington Education Board refuses the Club's request for a dispensation from the Sunday play prohibition. Opponents say that it would offend church-going people and that it would be the thin edge of the wedge to

be followed by other games such as football and cricket. In a debate later this year the Board finally passes an amendment, with a narrow seven votes to six majority to allow School Committees the authority to permit Sunday tennis.



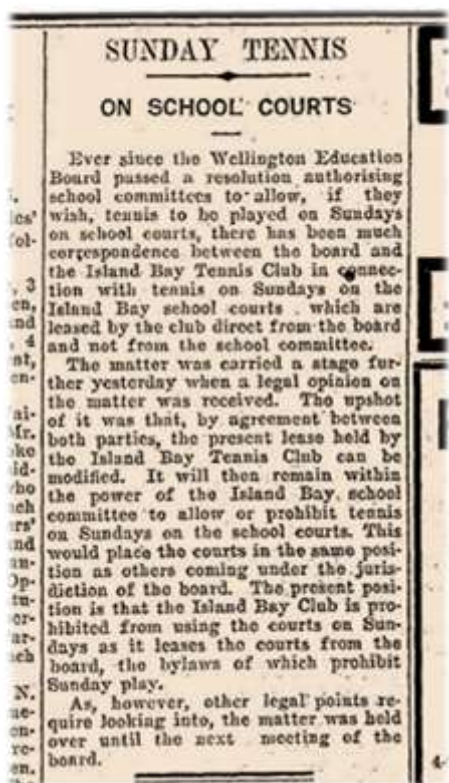
1934 Club's lease is altered to permit tennis play on Sunday.

1934 New club pavilion is opened, bringing total Club expenditure at the new site to £900.

1936 Club constructs two further tennis courts at a cost of £170.

1938 Courts flood after heavy rain and the ground under the courts subsides. Club writes to Wellington South MP Robert McKeen to request help to fix the drainage problem, the start of lengthy correspondence on the matter.

1939 President A L Craig addresses the AGM saying that '*it was gratifying to note the spirit of camaraderie that still permeates the club*' and special stress was laid that the coming season must be one for expansion especially in membership as it would be the twenty fifth year since the club's inception.





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1940s

1940 Club Management Committee carries a recommendation to the New Zealand Lawn Tennis Association 'that all tennis players throughout the Dominion be requested to contribute a small amount towards the purchase of a fighting plane to be presented to the British Government as a gift from the tennis players of New Zealand'. The sum of £2-2-0 was forwarded to the Wellington Lawn Tennis Association as a donation to the Fighting Plane Fund in December 1940.

1945 Club offers its support to the Wellington Lawn Tennis Association to obtain courts in the Central Park area, later to become the Renouf Tennis Centre.

1945 Courts 2, 3, 4 and 5 resurfaced with asphalt by Wellington Asphalt Co. at a cost of £109.

1947 Club enters four teams into the 1947/48 tennis interclub competition.



1948 Club's Constitution specifies that the Management Committee comprises eleven members and non-member debenture holders and 'in no case shall the Ladies representation exceed three'.

1949 The Club's piano is repaired at a cost of £20.

1949 A Memorial Plaque is donated by patron ER Toop and displays the names of club members who lost their lives in World War II.





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1950s

1950 Club membership reaches 84 seniors and 87 juniors with subscriptions £4 for senior men, £3 for ladies and £1 for juniors at school. Club requests a renewal of its lease from the Wellington Education Board but this is put on hold while the Board considers using the site for a school for 'backward children'.

1951 Club requires that its by-law stating that 'whites should be worn throughout the weekend and on public holidays' be enforced and a poster is prepared on this matter.

1952 Land used by the club is transferred to Wellington City Council for administration. They propose a rental of £6.60 per court reducible by 50% if the courts are kept in good order.

1952 Club offers a tennis coaching scheme for the first time, and in 1954 initiates coaching on Saturday mornings for 20 children attending Island Bay, Berhampore and South Wellington Intermediate schools. At this time Island Bay Lawn Tennis Club is one of the few senior clubs offering reduced junior subscriptions and junior coaching.

1952 Social Committee forms in October 1952 and schedules its first functions: a card evening (6 Dec), Junior Xmas party (12 Dec) and a Yankee tournament (14 Dec), and purchases a gramophone for £5 and a radiator for £1.

1953 Flooding of courts prompts renewed correspondence with WCC regarding drainage problems. Club establishes a Drainage Sub-Committee.

1953 (April) Closing Day tournament included a Club Captains vs Secretaries match in which participants were required to play with any utensil except a tennis racquet. Spades and brooms were popular utensils.

1954 Blazer pockets are designed for the club.

1958 Christmas Cabaret evening held at Central Park and makes £26 profit.





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1960s

1961 Falling membership prompts extensive campaign with advertisements in local papers and at the Empire Theatre. Entrance fee for juniors is waived. Coca cola sales posts a £7 loss.

1963 Club raffles a Christmas hamper including a ham, side of lamb, two chickens, two Christmas puddings, cake, six tins fruit juice, six tins fruit, a tin of biscuits, two pounds of chocolate, 200 cigarettes, sweets and £5 spending money.

1965 A proposal to build a squash centre in Island Bay is proposed by local priest Father Shannahan at an Island Bay Progressive Association meeting.

1968 The name of the club is changed to Island Bay Lawn Tennis and Squash Club (Inc) anticipating the expansion of the club to include squash.

1968 A prospectus for a new squash and tennis centre is released aimed at attracting members and financing developments through debentures. There is a target of 200 members and \$12,000 investment through debentures.

1969 Annual squash and tennis membership fees for seniors are set at \$15, plus \$30 entrance fee for new members.





OUR 100 YEARS ...

1970s

1970 A budget is drawn up for the building programme for the squash centre. The estimated \$85,733 in costs are to be financed from a mortgage (\$42,500), Island Bay Services Club (\$8,000), Island Bay RSA (\$1000), Members B Debentures (\$9,000), A Debentures (\$25,233).

1970 A Hillman Hunter car is raffled off to help finance the new building. The raffle is organised jointly between Island Bay and Oriental Rongotai club with a net profit to the club of around \$1500.



1971 The new club building is opened by Sir Frank Kitts, Mayor of Wellington, on 27 March. Locals, Father Shannahan and Glenys Treweek, Miss New Zealand, hit the first ball. The final cost was around \$95,000, or around \$1.3 million today.



1971 A Friday night 'mugs night' is established, later to become 'Handle Club'.



1978 Tennis courts are resurfaced with asphalt.



1978 Squash membership reaches 450. Patron Clyde McLeod recalls: "It was bl**dy hard to get a court booking and the club

had oodles of money - the cash flow must have been fantastic. Tennis was huge as well - you couldn't move in the bar on Saturday evenings."



O U R 1 0 0 Y E A R S ...

1980-90s

1987 Be-a-Sport sports shop run by Club member Dave Twist sponsors the Mens Grade One squash team. Club holds a disco on 4 April.

1989 Club investigates drainage and resurfacing requirements for the tennis courts.

1990 Island Bay has three women in the tennis top ten for Wellington: Kylie Miles, Leslie Wilkinson and Shelley Monds.

1990 Tennis courts are repaired and resurfaced with plexipave and opened by Mayor of Wellington. Poker machines are installed in the club rooms to help finance the upgrade. Senior tennis membership is \$130 + \$50 entrance fee for new members. Senior squash membership is \$175 + \$50 entrance fee for new members.



1991 Club membership is 364 with 125 tennis members.

1992 Deck is constructed, with costs shared between the club and Island Bay Services club. Squash committee hosts a fireworks display on Guy Fawkes Day and a Christmas party at the Pines.

1995 Falling membership and income (experienced also by many other sports clubs) prompts discussion at the AGM of options of winding up, splitting the club, taking on a mortgage, or merging with other nearby clubs. These motions are declined but the club agrees to open up to casual players. Members are determined to regenerate the club and put energy into increasing sponsorship, improving the clubhouse, communications, and attracting new members.



1996 Club holds 25th Jubilee (since formation as a Tennis & Squash Club) in October.

1998 Club chooses a new logo

1999 Club membership is 175, with 101 squash and 45 tennis members.



O U R 1 0 0 Y E A R S ...

2000-14

2002 Squash committee runs a busy calendar of tournaments and social events including six interclub teams, Island Bay Open, Club champs, Island Bay Masters, Handicap Teams Challenge, and Open Day, and a Xmas party.

2004 Club is in deficit and options on the table include: adding a gym to the club, winding the Club up, or giving the tennis courts back to the Council.

2007 Club membership grows back to 270 – 122 squash and 148 tennis. Tennis juniors increase to 97 with coaching availability.

2009 Jono Hurley appointed as tennis coach.

2011 Makere Bradnam appointed as new club coach. Tuesday evening ladies tennis commences.

2013 Court 1 excavated, drainage replaced, refilled and all three courts resurfaced with SynPave. Five tonnes of cement are required to stabilise the wet ground under court 1. The total cost was \$136,000, with around \$100,000 of this financed by grants and club fundraising. Courts are formally opened on 1 September by Wellington Mayor Celia Wade-Brown.

2013 Squash wins the Bruce Davidson trophy for Division 1 Masters Interclub and the Slazenger cup for the most successful club, winning the Masters and Men's Division 2, 3 and 5.

2014 Club is awarded 2013/14 Club of the Year for the Tennis Central Region. Playing membership is 389 – 171 squash and 218 tennis.

2014 Junior squash develops with the appointment of Gary Aukett as junior coach, Friday junior club day squash opportunities, and purchase of SmallNix modified equipment.

2014 David Knight appointed tennis coach. Club celebrates 100 years on Saturday 18 October.

