

## Aussies find a pot of GOLD, SILVER and BRONZE in New Zealand

In the Tony Trabert Cup (men's 40), we had to settle for Bronze. Australia outplayed New Zealand 3-0 for 3<sup>rd</sup>, when Martin Richards beat Jason Young 62 60, Brett Patten was too strong for Glenn Wilson, 64 62, and Paul Kleverlaan & Chris O'Mara held out against Stephen Buckmaster and Steven Pett 46 64 64. Well done, guys!

In the Austria Cup (men's 55), Glenn, Gary and Rodney successfully defended the Cup which Australia has won, 6 times before, in consecutive years. Gary Thoroughgood soundly defeated Spaniard Jose Cambra in the #2 Singles, 62 64, followed by an equally impressive win over Miguel Mir, 75 61 by Glenn Busby, followed by a solid performance by Rod Wurtz and Gary Thoroughgood to take the Doubles 62 62 against J F Arcones Pastor and Felix Riba. Gold, Gold, Gold for Australia!

In the Susan Lenglen Cup (35s), after a win against Turkey, our girls had to play South Africa for 5<sup>th</sup> position. Michelle Leyden won against Marlese Wilke 63 64, with Karen Kleverlaan having a convincing win against Sally Estcourt 61 61. Our Doubles pairing of Juliann Jacobsen and Karen Pearce, completed the proceedings with a 76 62 victory over Marlese and Sally. This was the third win "on the trot" to these girls - plenty gained from playing the tough ones early!

In the Maria Esther Bueno (women's 50) Australia (#2) can be proud of the Silver medal, after meeting the favoured USA team, who were seeded #1. Kerrie Douglas did well against Susan Wright, 36 57, with Ros Balodis levelling with a superb straight sets win over Di Fishburne 61 62. Ros and Kerrie then faced former Grand Slam doubles winner, Joanne Russell playing with Susan Wright. The Americans were too strong, taking it 64 62 to win Gold, with Silver for Australia.

In the Maureen Connolly (women's 55), in the 3-team round robin, Australia lost its second match to the USA team. Robin Walker was beaten by the very experienced Tina Karwasky, while Lyn Mortimer lost narrowly to Carolyn Nicholls, 57 67(7). Tina then played with Mary Ginnard, completing a clean sweep for the US, against Lyn Mortimer and Sara Goddard, 60 61. Well done, girls to be in the top three - Bronze for Australia!

Thus concludes a week of mixed feelings on both sides of the Tasman. While some of our players were coming to terms with the loss of their personal belongings, some of us back home were left wondering what was happening. All the International teams who "soldiered on" deserve much praise for their tenacity under such difficult and disconcerting circumstances.

We extend our most sincere sympathy to the people of Canterbury in their time of terrible hardship and loss of life. There was no choice in Christchurch but to suspend play, but it was gratifying that in two places that were undamaged by the earthquake, the ITF could honour the commitment to the organisations that had put so much time and effort into their preparations for these World Teams' Championships. Let's hope it is something we will never again encounter.

Robyn Castle

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