

# See tennis champ Pat Cash's Wimbledon trophy collection for the first time in Melbourne from today at the National Sports Museum

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For the first time since that historic straight sets victory against the world number one Ivan Lendl in July 1987, at the time the first Australian Men's Wimbledon singles victory in 16 years, former world number four and Melbourne's own **Pat Cash** has brought his greatest tennis prizes home to the National Sports Museum.

"We're thrilled to have items related to Pat Cash's brilliant tennis career on display at the National Sports Museum," said National Sports Museum general manager Gerry Kerlin. "Pat is one of Australia's best ever tennis players, who strove from a very young age to achieve his sporting goals, which included winning Wimbledon. It is an absolute honour to have the greatest symbol of his tennis achievements – his Wimbledon Champion's Cup trophy - on display in the museum alongside the very racquet he used to win the 1987 final against Ivan Lendl."

Pat Cash has provided tennis fans in Australia with some of the most memorable tennis matches in our rich history. As well as his incredible Wimbledon win, in 1983 Cash was chosen to play for the Australian Davis Cup Team and became the youngest player to play in a Davis Cup final. He won the decisive singles rubber against Joakim Nyström as Australia defeated Sweden 3-2 to claim the cup.

In 1986, Cash helped Australia win the Davis Cup again. Yet again they beat Sweden 3-2 in the final. Cash again won the decisive singles rubber, coming back from two sets down against Mikael Pernfors to win in five sets. This is considered to be amongst the greatest comebacks in Australian tennis history.

The Pat Cash exhibit at the National Sports Museum opens today from 10am. Included in Pat's historic collection are:

- The 1987 (Wimbledon) Champion's Cup presented to Pat Cash inscribed with the words 'The All England Lawn Tennis Club Single Handed Champion of the World'.
- The 1987 (Wimbledon) President's Cup, the second of three trophies awarded to the men's singles champion.
- The Prince Magnesium Pro model racquet used in the 1987 Wimbledon final.
- The 1982 Wimbledon Junior Singles Championship trophy.

A highlight of the exhibit will be the display of Pat Cash's trademark, an original checkered headband.

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“I’m not the type of guy who likes to look at his trophies on the mantelpiece. They have been in storage for a long time,” said Pat Cash. “I couldn’t be happier that my tennis memories are on display at the National Sports Museum at the MCG. This is the perfect place to for everyone to enjoy them. I have great memories of coming to the MCG as a child, watching the cricket and of course, many Hawthorn victories.”

“The National Sports Museum seeks to capture the greatest moments in Australia’s sporting history – and this was indeed a momentous moment in Australian sport – made even more brilliant when Pat displayed his customary spontaneous spirit by climbing the centre court stands and embracing his family and coaching team in the player’s box after winning,” said Gerry Kerlin.

“We are also delighted Pat has found time during his busy summer tennis schedule to appear at the National Sports Museum on Wednesday January 27 to tell our patrons some of the interesting stories behind his tennis artefacts on display.”

Whilst in Australia, Pat Cash will be playing in the World Tennis Challenge in Adelaide, partnering with exciting Australian junior Bernard Tomic, and then competing in the Legends event at the Australian Open. As well as playing, coaching and media commitments Pat is also heavily involved in a number of charities including ‘Do Something’ (which aims to create positive social and environmental change), ‘Planet Ark’ which he co-founded (aims to raise awareness of environmental issues), as well as GOAL (third world development and relief organisation) and The Orchid Appeal (raising awareness of men’s cancer).

As well as seeing the exhibit, Herald Sun readers today have the opportunity to meet Pat Cash and have a tour of the National Sports Museum with him on January 27.

For entry details, please see today’s Herald Sun and for more information regarding the Pat Cash tennis exhibit and Pat’s appearance at the NSM go to [www.nsm.org.au](http://www.nsm.org.au).

**Pat Cash and Gerry Kerlin are available for interviews.**

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