



ON PAR

Cock O' Walk Winners Ready to Tackle the World



Winners of this year's Cock O' Walk, Tony Coates and Doug Walton felt so confident after their victory that they decided to take on bigger fish and entered the Womens Open 2BBB at Port Sorell. Some of you may have seen their names in the draw in The Advocate. The girls were looking forward to seeing both boys frocked up but alas they were a no show. They are pictured here receiving their trophies at a presentation at the Club.

Well done again lads.

Carl Brown's Hidden Talents

Carl Brown has been a member of the Thirlstane Golf Club for about 30 years and he is well known to most members. He plays twice a week when he can, on Wednesdays with the Veterans and on Saturdays. Carl volunteers as the BBQ chef whenever the Vets entertain a visiting Club and he brings in the meat tray raffles from his favourite butcher. He retired from full time work 17 years ago having spent the last 18 years of his working life at the Devonport TAFE college, or



Tech as it was previously known. He was the green-keeper at the Devonport Bowls Club for three and a half years and before that he worked at the Edgells factory at Quoiba for 23 years. Carl was born and bred in Devonport 81 years ago and knows quite a lot about the place, particularly the history of many landmark buildings in and around Devonport.

Many members have been on the receiving end of a good turn by Carl, who is very handy with fixing things such as golf carts and other bits and pieces, but how many are aware of the craftsman Carl Brown. As a hobby, Carl has been building model boats at home for many years. He has always had a fascination for boats having lived near the Mersey River all his life. His uncle was a boat builder in Ulverstone who built trawlers up to 54' long. His father-in-law was a fisherman and Carl sailed yachts in and around the Mersey River, having joined the Devonport yacht club in 1951.

Carl has made 18 model boats ranging from small yachts to warships. The list also includes tug boats, fishing trawlers, whaling boats and launches. The boats range in size from two to four feet in length. They have all been meticulously crafted to scale from Huon and King Billy pine and are all fully functioning remote control models. The vessels even include the real sounds of the engines, fog horns and functioning navigation lights. It takes Carl around 150 hours (give or take 150) to build each craft and as can be seen in the model pictured above, no attention to detail has been spared.

Carl lives with his wife Margaret. They have a daughter, Sharni and are also the very proud grandparents of 16 year old Caitlin Radford of Moriarty. Caitlin was diagnosed with chronic juvenile arthritis four years ago which has affected her mobility however that hasn't stopped her from becoming one of Australia's leading Para-equestrian competitors in dressage and she could be on her way to the para Olympics in Rio De Janeiro next year.

Playing a round of golf with Carl is an absolute pleasure. In the stirring department he give as good as he takes. He finds more balls than he loses. He is a straight talker and a thorough gentleman and at 81 there's plenty of life left in the old dog.

What's Going on in China?

Nathan Richardson has just returned from a potato grower's conference in China and before he went he was looking forward to playing golf at a resort course as promised by the organisers of the conference. But upon arrival, he and other eager attendees were told that the Chinese Government has had a crackdown on Golf Courses, many of which were illegally built and they have put bulldozers through the entire complexes; courses, club houses, the lot. Nathan was told that 30 resort courses were closed down for demolition in the last six months. The Chinese Government stated that golf courses takes up too much land and local people don't play and it wastes time and money! Maybe we should advertise our cheap green fees in China.



Our Girls contest the Barclay Shield

Four of our lady members travelled to North West Bay on Monday 28 September to play in the annual foursomes event, the Barclay Shield. Lynne Dutton, Liz Sumpton, Fran Hamilton and Jan Gamble, (pictured right) represented Thirlstane on a miserable drizzly day where the golf was tough going. Only four members from any Club are allowed in the event and the winning team is determined by the best net aggregate score. The Richmond team took out the event this year,



but Lynne and Fran won the best nett aggregate score for a pair who were not in the winning team coming in with a score of 72.5. Congratulations to our four ladies who played in the event. The Barclay Shield is a State event which has been running for a number of years. The shield is a perpetual trophy in honour of the late Misses G, L, & E Barclay who gave so many years of service to Tasmanian golf.

Longford win the Vets Challenge again

The Longford vets made their annual sojourn to Thirlstane on September 16 to contest the Vets Challenge, a nine year old competition that is won by adding the best ten scores from each team. The challenge is contested twice a year, once at each Club and the scores are cumulative, so to win the trophy the losing Club has to make up the deficit of previous challenge in the same year as well as win the day. The Thirlstane Vets trophy cabinet has a vacant spot for the trophy which sadly has remained vacant since the challenge began. Maybe next year boys.

From the Committee

Social GA Handicaps

The Committee discussed the emergence of social handicaps being widely advertised, allowing players who are not members of a bricks and motor golf club to obtain a Golf Australia handicap and Golf Link card through an on line social golf club that is affiliated with a State golfing body. The handicaps are maintained and available for relatively small fees compared to golf club memberships. Take a look at belowthepin.com.au for more information. The committee moved to treat such handicap holders no differently to any other green fees player.

New Cool Room

Work has commenced on the building of a new cool room so the bar may be in some disarray for a short time. Please bear with us whilst this very necessary work takes place. The installation company has promised it should take no longer than one week.

What type of wet weather shelter do you want?

The committee are currently actively considering the type of buggy shelter that would be most suitable without spoiling the aesthetics of the Club and would be the most practical. Two options are being seriously considered, one a stand alone open front shed alongside the clubrooms between the path and the practice nets, with the open section facing the ninth tee. The other being a structure attached to the wall of the Club house, over the existing path and extending four metres out. The committee hopes to have something available for members to have a look at so a vote can be taken as to which one is more appropriate. Other options previously considered included covering the patio area and extending the club house roof line on the eastern side however the committee ruled them out as they were prohibitively expensive.

Pending Retirement of Garry Oliver

Vice president Garry has advised that he will be retiring from his volunteer green keeping role by May next year. Garry continues to be an invaluable member of the volunteer team putting in many hours including some very early starts to ensure that our course is maintained in peak condition. His mechanical skills with machinery has saved this Club a significant amount of money. He will be very hard to replace but the Club must plan ahead to ensure that the course maintains its excellent reputation. If there is any member out there who thinks they could step up to the mark, the Committee would love to hear from you, otherwise a commercial solution will need to be considered. The other volunteer grounds staff continue to do a fantastic job and it is hoped that they or others in their place, will continue to give their valuable time to assist whoever replaces Garry.

Greens Maintenance

The greens will be groomed on 1 October and they will be cored on Monday 26 October following the final round of the Club Championships.

Tee Bed Restoration

The fourth tee bed has been sprayed and oversewn. Hopefully the grass will take off this time and the tee bed restored.

The first bed has been sanded and will also be verti-drained and levelled through progressive topping up with sand and soil.

Members on Sick List

Nobby Walsh is still in hospital at the Royal in Hobart having suffered a stroke the day before he was to be allowed home. He is travelling along OK although he is unable to talk. If you are in Hobart, he would really appreciate a visit.

Don Mitchelson hasn't been travelling too well lately. We hope he returns to good health soon.

New Members

The Club welcomes three new members

James Carter from Osmaston - Country Member

John Price from Port Sorell - Full Member

Nolan Costello from Devonport - Social Member

Membership Fees & Status.

There is still a few members who have not renewed their membership this year. The committee have resolved that they be removed from the members ledger.

All members are reminded that the subscriptions next year must all be paid either in full by 1 April or if you chose to pay by instalments, by monthly instalments using the Bpay facility through Pricap. No other form of payment will be accepted regardless of past arrangements.

Some members have also previously enjoyed summer membership however this category will also not be available next year.

Match Committee

New Local Rule - Garden Beds

The Match Committee determined that the garden beds beside the second tee bed, beside the 6th tee bed, behind the 6th green, beside the 7th tee bed and between the 8th green and the 9th fairway be treated as GUR.

Tee Times

Members are reminded to report to the starters box at least 15 minutes before your tee time. This assists the starter in ensuring that the field is not held up and that groups can be re-arranged if required. Some members are making a habit of turning up right on their start time or in some instances after their tee off time which irritate all those waiting and makes things difficult for the starter. So please turn up early.

Notify Starter if you can't play.

Some members recently have simply not turned up for their game even though they have not advised the starter of their inability to attend. Please have the courtesy to ring the starter well before your tee off time if you can't make it. Repeat offenders may be sanctioned in the future, a road the Match Committee really don't want to travel.

LOCAL CLUB RULE No. 1 - Enjoy yourself.

Know Your Rules

Hitting a provisional

Hitting a provisional ball has been a topic in a previous newsletter however it has been noticed that some members are still unaware of the rule concerning hitting a provisional ball.

Rule 27 -2 outlines the provisional ball rule, but briefly, if you suspect your ball may be lost off the tee, providing it is not in a water hazard or out of bounds, you may hit another ball before leaving the tee ground and you may continue to hit the provisional ball up to to point where you think your first ball may be. You must hit your provisional before leaving the tee. If you do not hit another ball before leaving the tee and you commence to look for your first ball, you have five minutes to try to find your ball. If you go back to the tee to hit another ball and another player in your group finds your original ball before you hit another ball off the tee and within the five minutes search time, your first ball is the ball in play providing you have not declared the ball lost. If you go back and hit another ball off the tee, the second ball you hit becomes the ball in play regardless of whether your first ball has been found after you hit your second ball.

Laugh for the Month

Thanks to Doug Walton

Irish Logic

Two Irishmen were sitting in a pub watching the Tour De France on TV.

Seamus shook his head and asked, "Whoi t'e hell do they do that?"

"Do what?" asked Mick,

"Go on them boikes for moiles and moiles, up and down t'e hills, round t'e bends, day after day, week after week. No matter if it's oicy, rainin', snowin', hailin'..why would they torture themselves like that?"

"Tis all for the prestige and the money," replied Mick, "You know the winner gets about a half a million Euros".

"Yeah, I understand that." said Seamus, "But why do all the others do it?"

Contributions

Your contributions to this newsletter are very welcome and gratefully received. Please send any items of interest to hankandpat@beagle.com.au.