



From the President

Course Improvements

The General Committee has approved the following projects which will all be undertaken by our hard-working volunteers in the near future:

- Extension of the pump house, providing more room for storage, access and efficiency of operations;
- Raising the height of the “banana lake” on the fifth fairway by damming the lower spillway;
- Construction of a chipping and putting green including a practice bunker – to be located between the clubhouse and the twelfth tee;
- Continuation of the gravel pathway around the dam near the fourth tee bed;
- Installation of speed humps each side of the machinery sheds
- Installation of a sand bucket drop off station to be located in the car park close to the practice fairway

We are lucky to have such a team of talented and skilled volunteers – their efforts contribute immensely to the ongoing success of our club.

Club Sponsorship

Vice President Chris Hallam has been busy procuring sponsors and members will be noticing a large number of new signs appearing around the course. Chris has organised an informative booklet which identifies the many ways businesses can become involved as club sponsors. If you know of any business contacts who may be interested in coming on board as a sponsor, please collect one of the booklets from the bar and pass onto prospective clients.

Coring Of the Greens

The greens were cored and sanded last week as part of ongoing greens maintenance. Labour was plentiful with around 20 volunteers making the task so much easier – a big thank you to all those members who turned up bright and early, allowing regular volunteers to continue with their routine tasks.

Course Ranger

Members would be aware that Brian Summerfield has been undertaking the role of Course Ranger for the past 12 months and doing a tremendous job. Unfortunately, he has been battling some health issues which have slowed down his ability to complete the ranger role lately. Like his beloved soccer team, Brian is keen to rally and get on top of his health issues. We look forward to seeing Brian getting around the course in his Course Ranger role in the near future.

Beginners Clinics

The club has been conducting clinics for beginners every Wednesday evening during the summer months. The clinics were originally aimed at encouraging members of the Devonport Hockey club staying together in the off season. This has grown into novice females taking up golf, and has been running for the past four

Replace Divots

Repair Pitch Marks

No cigarette Butts on the Course

years. From this several of those attendees have joined the club and are participating in regular competitions. Bev Sienesi has been instrumental in coordinating the sessions and has been assisted by Greg Boyd, Charlie Sienesi, James Bramich, Liz Sumpton, Karen Hall, Helen Richards, Kate Bramich and Sarah Merrick who have helped with coaching, conducting 6-hole competitions and undertaking Bar and Kitchen duties. The club is indebted to the service provided by these members.

Thirlstane Women

The Constance Henry was played at the Wynyard Golf Club a NorthWest Golf teams event, playing a foursome. We came fourth out of eight clubs. Irene Page and Sue Watts came third in their division. Congratulations to Sue in her first event representing the Club.

Our own Editor Liz Sumpton won the B Grade Women's North West Golf Championship in Ulverstone recently with a gross score of 192 over 36 holes.

Some of our Ladies played in the Port Sorell Ladies Invitation, a Canadian, we had a successful day with winners: Sue Westlake, Olivia Williams, Summa Woods and Irene Page.

The Club's Ladies Championship Foursomes was played on the 10th February over 27 holes. The Winners were:

Bev Sienesi and Katrina Mitchelson – 141 Gross
R/Up Leonie Clarke and Glenda MacDonald – 148 Gross
Nett Winners Irene Page and Summa Wood – 110 Nett

Patrons Day was held on the 3rd February with our Patron Bev Williams Sponsoring the Day.

Division 1 Summa Wood – 38 Points
Division 2 Sue Westlake – 40 Points

It was lovely to see Bev and afternoon tea was supplied by the Lady Members and was enjoyed by all. We thank Bev for her Sponsorship.



Liz Sumpton North West B Grade Champion



Katrina Mitchelson and Bev Sienesi, Foursomes Champions



Glenda MacDonald and Leonie Clarke, Runners Up



Summa Wood and Irene Page, Nett Winners



Cheryl Sutcliffe, Club Handicap Champion with Runner Up Summa Wood



Port Sorell Winners



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We thank Bev Sienesi, Kate Bramich, Greg Boyd, Charlie Sienesi and their helpers on the success of the Beginners Clinic which was held on a Wednesday night. The number of new members both female and male it has created is very impressive. The Lady Members on a Tuesday are averaging 25 to 35 players, which is a great number from five years ago when we were lucky to get twenty players.

Liz Sumpton, Karen Hall and Dianne Connelly traveled to Smithton and played 27 holes in the Ladies Smithton Bowl. Karen and Dianne both had wins in their divisions.



Dianne



Karen

Veterans Report

The NTVGA championship was conducted at Thirlstane GC on the 26th of February with a field of 92. I wish to thank the Veterans Committee on the work on the day especially Paul Glover, David Dunham, Chris Hinds and Mike Smith for their efforts to ensure that the day was run very efficiently and our Club was able to make a very healthy profit. Katrina, Leonie and Summa again provided the luncheon for all participants and again all I hear are positive comments so thank you again. I also wish to acknowledge all who provided sponsorship for our event.

It has been pleasing to see so many visitors playing on Wednesdays and to hear the compliments of how good our course is makes the hard work of the Course staff all worthwhile.

The AGM is due for early April and as all positions are vacant Vet Members are encouraged to consider applying for a position they may feel that they can contribute to our Group. Nomination forms are in the Spike bar.

Thank you

Arthur Johnstone

President Thirlstane Veterans Group

NTVGA Championships

The Thirlstane Vets group recently hosted the NTVGA Annual Championship for the 5th time, sponsored by Steve & Bianca Bush of Mountain Dew Ice.

90 players from across the North and North West and 4 players who travelled up and back from Swansea. The comments about the course presentation, organisation and catering were all very complimentary and the Swansea boys have already decided to come back.

The day brings in well over \$2000 into the clubs coffers which makes all the hard work well worth it. We have the championship for at least the next 2 years.

3 time winner and reigning champion Robbie Berne playing off +2 had an off day and this years winner was Phil Loring from Burnie with a 79 gross.

Whilst others warm up in the nets, chipping and putting Phil and his wife Jeanette who are regulars at Thirlstane tournaments prefer to warm up in the bar.

Phil is pictured with NTVGA President Brian Whelan



Chicken Run Monthly Winners

Sponsored by Ghost Rock Wines

December	Dave Williams
January	PT Taylor
February	Tonia Sadler

Summer Cup

The Summer Cup qualifier was held 17th January and the finalists were the top two qualifying teams. Daniel Woods and Dean Hays defeated Mal Bransden and Paul Buckless 5/4.

Daniel, one of our younger players, is a talented golfer and a valuable edition to our club. Well done Daniel and Dean.



Dean Hays and Daniel Woods

We Welcome these New Members

Full	Susan Lester Kevin Russell Sally Rowlands Adrian Stokes Robin Norris Emma McCoy Nicholas Brill Karen Kingshott Will Johnstone-Ford Kyle Ford Len Kromkamp	Intermediate	Tait Highet
		Junior	Cody Keep
		Social	Ari Lawes Claire Rayner Norm Allen

Vale Judy Rayner

Judy began playing golf at Woodrising and then joined Shearwater with her husband Lionel in the seventies. When the club moved to Thirlstane they both became foundation members.

Judy was the life of the party, always welcoming and friendly to all. Country week was the highlight on the golfing calendar for Judy and the time leading up to this saw her saving gold coins for her trip to the casino! Sadly several fractures ended Judy's playing days but she kept an interest in the club.



From L to R. Bev Williams, Marg Brown, Lesley Lamprey, Mary Matthew, Fay Marshall, Betty Hooper, Judy Rayner, Gwen Richardson

She is well remembered for her amazing ability to keep track of not only her own score but all in her group. Her good head for numbers lead her to being Handicapper for the ladies. Judy was also Ladies Captain during 1995 and 1996.