



LINKS

Newsletter of the Lane Cove Golf Club
For the information of members and their guests

VOLUME 12

No 6

JULY 2017

(Edited by Ralph Sadler - email; ralphsadler@icloud.com)

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Mid -Winter already and I have to say, the prospect of colder golf conditions was less compelling than a trip to Europe, so I'm writing this while enjoying a morning coffee overlooking the pristine azure waters of the Aegean Sea.

However, the golfing gods have also smiled on me, as Jenni has just told me there is a top class golf resort, pictured left, 2 km from our residence,... what a coincidence!! I hope to be able to sneak a round in there before we depart Corfu for some sailing off Croatia with my golfing, and now yachting buddy, Rick, and his family.



I would like to extend the Club's condolences to the family of Wendy Ross, a long-time Club member. I did not know Wendy, but I believe that the Club was well represented by a number of ladies at Wendy's funeral.

At home I understand that work has recommenced on the bridge, albeit it has still been stop-start activity only. At least all the necessary material has been delivered and it seems it is just a matter of putting all the bits together – a bit like playing with Meccano or Lego! And, we now have a revised completion date of xxx? I am looking forward to a more direct route to the green and hopefully my golf ball will follow that lead and avoid any inconvenient detours.

Congratulations to the men's Singles KO winner, John Joyce who won a close match with Junior Club Champion Will Flannigan. Well played the gallant runner up. Making the finals is a great achievement so well done to you both.

Good Luck to the members of our men's Warren and Gibson Teams who will commence their inter-club pennants matches shortly. I note there are some very nice courses in the roster this year (Bayview, Randwick and The Coast) and I'm sorry that with travel commitments I won't be available to play this year. Fortunately though, this absence won't be missed as my slightly reduced handicap has excluded me from the Gibbo's and I doubt I could do much to advance our cause in the rarified atmosphere of the Warren Team.

ALAN MOSS President

WHAT'S ON AT THE CLUB
FULL SWING QUARTET

Fridays 7.00 – 10.00



GUEST ARTISTS

July 7 – Maree Wilson

July 14 – Richard Booth

July 21 – Virna Sanzone

July 28 – Gregg Arthur

August 4 – Isaac Martin

*Note, a small entry fee of \$5.00 applies -
(children free)*

Help! Marketing Assistance Needed

With Michael Meade moving interstate in August, the Club urgently needs a volunteer to assist the Club Manager and Board.

This is mainly in the areas of the website content, social media and promotions.

It does not require a great deal of time and is very important to the Club.

So, if you can help, please call Kent on 9427 6631



GOT AN EVENT COMING UP?

If you have a family occasion to celebrate, or a club or work-related social activity, why not hold your function at the clubhouse?

Do yourself a favour and consider the Club as a function centre, the right place to make the occasion a special one.

Expert help in organizing your function and a bonus is that there is a Member's discount on request.



GOLF; READ ALL ABOUT IT?

One reason there has been so much great writing about golf is simply because writers seek to understand the game they play: Michael Bamberger, James Dodson, John Feinstein, John Paul Newport, David Owen, Curt Sampson, Bud Shrake and Don Wade all have written ebooks ranging from how they play to biographies of greater golfers and legendary challenging golf courses.

Other writers, famous in different genres, have also been drawn to golf in search of peace, mystery, humour and self-awareness. These include A.A. Milne, Arthur Conan Doyle, P.G. Wodehouse, Ring Lardner and his son, John Lardner, Ward Just, Ethen Canin, James Bond's Ian Fleming, John Updike's *Rabbit* and Michael Murphy's legendary mysterious Scottish golf pro Shivas Irons and the mystical Kingdom of Fife.

But, the bookshelf is slight and slim when it comes to golf novels. F. Scott Fitzgerald, John O'Hara, John P. Marquand, J. D. Powers, Richard Ford and John Updike all used golf as a way to comment on their contemporary society. Michael Murphy's *Golf in the Kingdom* is an exercise in self-help, not literature. And Dan Jenkins' very funny books are easily shelved with collections of tall tales around the 19th hole.

Metaphorically speaking, we might say golf literature is like one of Bubba Watson's famous drives: long and high and very deep. Great golf prose has been with us since the days when Mary, Queen of Scots, first played the game as a schoolgirl in France. That golfing Monarch first called the kid carrying her clubs a caddie, after the French word "cadet" (pronounced cad-day). So, now we have arrived at the caddie as novelist.

Anyone who plays the game knows caddies function as coaches, psychologists, cheer-leaders and increasingly as storytellers. To find the pathos, the great characters, imposing themes and compelling narratives look for the caddie not the player. Seek out the Sancho Panzas of golfing Don Quixotes.



The first of these more recent "caddie novels" was the commercially successful *The Legend of Bagger Vance* by Steven Pressfield published in 1995. Now a movie, (2000) directed by Robert Redford and starring Will Smith, Matt Damon and Charlize Theron.

While the novel drew on golf history, it is about the mysterious powers of an African American caddie who guides a troubled, rich white war hero through a match against Bobby Jones and Walter Hagen. Tom Coyne (no relation) followed in 2002 with *A Gentleman's Game*, fiction involving poor caddies and rich members outside of Philadelphia. In 2003 Peter Dexter published *Train* about a gifted black caddie player who worked at an exclusive Los Angeles golf course. Novelist/lawyer, J. Michael Veron completed his popular Bobby Jones trilogy (*The Greatest Player Who Never Lived* and *The Greatest Course That Never Was*) with *The Caddie*. Published in 2004, this novel has caddie Steward "Jones" guiding a young pro to victory and wisdom.

Remember that the next time you tee it up. You might find yourself the protagonist in that kid's book.

Edited version from, John Coyne, Books, Classics of Golf, 1917

BLUNTS PLAYER OF THE MONTH AWARD



Let's not give a blow-by-blow account of how the last Men's Blunts Player of the Month Award for the year was won.

Rather let's just say that Wayne Belgre (your humble correspondent) limped over the line with rounds of nett 61 and nett 64 to win the award.

The good news for our Club however is that Blunts have again decided to continue their sponsorship, taking their support into an 11th year.

We must thank Michelle Bartlett and Mark Daiton for their magnificent, much appreciated support over these eleven years.

WAYNE BELGRE

CAPTAIN'S CORNER

Hands up all those members who can be considered cumbersome (SLOW) when playing their golf? Hmm...no-one?? How about hands up to all those who don't mind being told they are slow. Hmmmm.... no-one again!

Well I have news, and unfortunately it is old news. For some reason the slow bug has caught a few members.

Lately the morning groups have been late turning. The 8.50 group should turn at 10.50 not 11.15 as was the case in the last two weeks. The afternoon groups are just as bad. Despite teeing off directly behind the last morning group, they seem to lose anything from a hole to two holes by the time they finish.

Sometimes the problem is caused by the public playing in front of the 8.00 group, but my observations are that it is not always the case. It is just members who seem to have no awareness of where they are in the field. The slowness is compounded back through the field and makes for a torturous day.



I won't re-iterate how to eradicate slow play as everyone knows (or at least should know). Please be aware of where the group in front are and do something about it if you fall behind.

One further item regarding safety; we all know to be careful when teeing off the 8th / 17th. Well the 7th / 16th can be just as dangerous. It is not ok to hit over the hill when the group in front have just disappeared from view. They may be just over the hill playing their 2nd or 3rd shots.

Those long-hitting members who can hit their drives near the green have to be especially careful. Please wait a reasonable time or even better wait for one of your group to walk forward to ensure the group in front is out of range.

WAYNE BELGRE Men's Captain

MEN'S GOLF

Well now that the course has dried up, it's great to get back into playing the game we all love (and at times love to hate!)

The month of June started off with a very disappointing wet long weekend, meaning the Mixed Foursomes could not be held. Personally I was very much looking forward to playing with Joan and defending our title. However it was not to be. This event will be scheduled for later in the year, possibly a one round event instead of the two.



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Speaking of mixed events, it's great to see some ladies joining the men in the Wednesday competition. Better still seeing Linda Jones-Meader taking out the Singles during the month with a score of 40 points equating to 16 over for the round. I can't recall what score hubby Wayne shot but let's just say I think it was his turn to wash the dishes that night!

The July medal was played in great conditions. However, the course has bitten back, and in A Grade particularly, the scores didn't seem to justify the condition. The results are as follows:

A Grade

Nett: Evan Jones 64 Scratch: Peter Doherty 72 and

B Grade

Nett: Claude Sitolé 63 Scratch: Ben Leckie 79

C Grade:

Nett: Ralph Sadler 61 Scratch: N Rowland (visitor) 83

Well done to Peter for winning the Anniversary Plate for the best scratch score for the day, and Ralph, the J.O'Loughlin Plate for best nett score.

Vern Pilkington won the June Medal playoff, defeating Wayne Belgre, and so taking out his first A Grade medal. Congrats Vern.

After some months, the Singles Knockout was completed on Saturday when the final was played between John Joyce and Will Flannigan. John proved victorious with a 5/3 win. Congratulations to John, I believe the singles knockout is the hardest Club competition to win. To Will, I say, "Watch this space"! There will be many more opportunities and a young man of your talent will produce many wins in the future if you put in the hard work!

It was especially pleasing to see Doug Cameron at the Club on Saturday afternoon. He looks in very good shape considering the procedures he has recently undergone. Apparently his docs are happy, but it will be a little time before he is given the green light to get back to shooting less than his age on the course.

It was great also to see an appearance from the (Bad) John Stevenson last Saturday. Always great to see his smiling face at the Club and here's hoping a membership renewal is on the cards.

The Warren and Gibson trophies will be commencing soon. This is the most enjoyable golf you will ever play. Team match play format representing our club - what more could you ask for? I had the honour of playing a couple of years back and loved every minute of it. If you are eligible and haven't put your name down, please do so.

Look forward to seeing you on the course!

EVAN JONES

WOMEN'S GOLF

The expression "as slow as a wet weekend" certainly applied to the June long weekend so...no Mixed Foursomes Championships. But some fine weather since then has allowed us to play some of our important games.

More Medals

On Sunday 4th June Suzique Doughty won the medal with a nett 65. She also won the Division 1 scratch with 82. Well done Suzique.

Division 2 was won by **Cindy Brown** with a nett 75 and scratch of 113. These two also won the putting, Suzique with 32 and Cindy 34!

Margo Vaughan won the nine-hole competition with a nett 40 and scratch of 61, and like the other two, she also won the putting with 16

On Thursday 22nd June, the medal winner was **Vanna Mutton** with a nett of 65 and scratch of 88. The Division 2 winner was **Janet Lean** with a nett 75 and **Jan Sadler** won the scratch with 113. **Robyn Seale** won the Division 1 putting with 28 and **Rosemary Hurford** won Division 2 with 31.

Margaret Collins won the nine-hole event with a nett 33 and **Sue Kallas** won the scratch with 47. Fifteen putts was a popular score for the putting, with **Robyn Glover, Claire Climpson, Margaret Collins** and **Sue Kallas**, all scoring this number. In a count back Sue was the winner!

Farewells

On Thursday 15th June, twenty friends of LCGC attended the funeral of **Wendy Ross**. Wendy's family were very appreciative that so many were able to attend and participate in what was a lovely sensitive service. The ladies also had a memorial to Wendy, after golf on Sunday 25th June. There were lots of "Wendy" memories and stories about one of the true characters of Lane Cove

On that day we also farewelled another long-term member, Marghanita da Cruz, who leaves the Club to pursue other interests. Our thanks go to Marghanita for her efforts in involving our Club with the Weekend Pennant. We wish her all the best with her community endeavours.

Ladies Development Clinics

James is running clinics for ladies, covering all aspects of golf; the swing, pitching and chipping, putting, bunkers and then a nine-hole round.

They got off to a very cold 7.30 am start on Saturday July 1st and will now be on the first Saturday of the next 4 months, but at a slightly later, "warmer" time. The cost will be \$45. (including a free coffee!). There are a maximum of 6 in the group, so be quick to book in.

Upcoming Events

- * The Club Championships start soon, so book in now and check Tee Time for more details.
- * Deposits are now due for our Golfaround jaunt to Riverside Oaks in October.
- * Golf NSW Bowl. Chose your partner for this 4BBB event to be played in August.
- * Captains v Presidents Day. Entries, please by July 29th.

SUE KALLAS



AS OTHERS SEE US?

Golf, you see, is not a game, but an addiction that draws unassuming clods deeper and deeper into its seductive web. Like any worthwhile bad habit, the more one plays the game, the more wants to play the game, and at four to five hours per round of golf, severe marital stress can result from the addiction unless one's spouse has also been afflicted.

Financial ruin is a distinct possibility due to the expensive nature of the sport, and of course, moral corruption is completely unavoidable, thanks to the incessant temptation to gamble, lie and cheat.

The most terrifying aspect of the affliction, however, is that it can maim and even kill! Hypertension, heart disease, stroke and temporary insanity are but a few possible by-products of one's continuous frustration over attempting to properly hit a bloody little golf ball.

In conclusion, then, I would suggest that the would-be golfer consider this last piece of advice first!
NEVER TAKE UP THE GAME OF GOLF.

Geoff Howson, from "Golf: How to Look Good When You're Not"



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- \$8.00 Beef Burger*
- \$9.00 Chicken Burger*
- \$9.00 Veggie Burger*
- C\$9.00 Cheese Burger*
- \$12.00 Burger & chips*
- \$14.00 Fish & Chips*
- \$10.00 Eggs & bacon on toast*
- \$13.50 Big Brekky*
- \$8.50 Pancakes with maple syrup*
- \$6.50 Wedges with sweet chilli or sour cream*
- \$14.00 Chicken Schnitzel & Chips*



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