



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

VOLUME 16

NO 9

OCTOBER, 2021

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

FROM THE BOARD

Exciting news! Light at the end of the tunnel? Like other members, we are certainly looking forward to re-opening the Club on Wednesday 13th October after the lengthy Covid-19 lockdown.

As golfing members already know, under NSW Health regulations, a condition of entry to the Club will be that all members, visitors, staff and contractors, must be fully vaccinated and be able to show proof of vaccination.

With the re-opening, we will also implement a new Covid safety plan which will follow the guidelines in relation to the number of patrons within the indoor and outdoor areas.

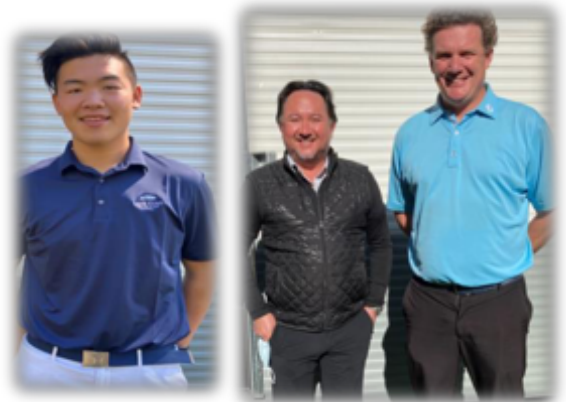
The Men's and Women's Golf Committees have done a wonderful job in enabling golfing members to continue to play, albeit with some restrictions, during the time of the lockdown. Many other sports and community activities have not been as fortunate, so well done to both committees.

The Board is pleased to announce more exciting news in that the Club has engaged a caterer. Kailash Bhandry has extensive experience, as for over 20 years he ran the Indian Restaurant in Lavender Bay. Kailash and his team will provide a range of catering options across a number of cuisines. They will start with takeaway options, and as restrictions are reduced, will cater for functions and provide a restaurant service within the Club. It will be good to have Kailash on board (excuse the pun), and further details will be provided as we return to more normal operating conditions.

In other catering news, Dave Martin will continue with *Tee 4 Two BBQ Cafe*, providing his famous toasted sandwiches and burgers, and other meals, on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

A further recent important development is that the new operators of the Pro Shop commenced on 5th October. Golfers will have seen the temporary pro shop located on the 1st tee. With a range of clothing featuring our Lane Cove Golf Club logo, there is a wide choice of other golf merchandise, soft drinks and snacks available to purchase.

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**Anthony Tan, Robbie Curtis and Clinton Russell,
new faces at the Pro Shop**

FROM THE BOARD continued

With the Pro Shop situated on the first tee, we expect to see an improvement in tee off times and a reduction in the public walking on from access points. We look forward to developing a good relationship with the new operators and we encourage members to support the new Northbridge Pro-Shop operators by purchasing your golfing needs from them as we look to build and grow our great club.

Following the resignation of Barry Watkin from the Board and as Licensee, current Board member, Barbara Oliver has offered to accept the position of Licensee. Thank you, Barbara.

Finally, but very importantly, please note that the Club's AGM will be held at the Club on Monday 25th October at 7.30 and we urge all members to attend. Over recent years it has often been difficult to obtain a quorum at the AGM. Therefore, we are asking members to RSVP to info@lanecovegolfclub.com.au as to their attendance or otherwise by Friday 22 October 2021.

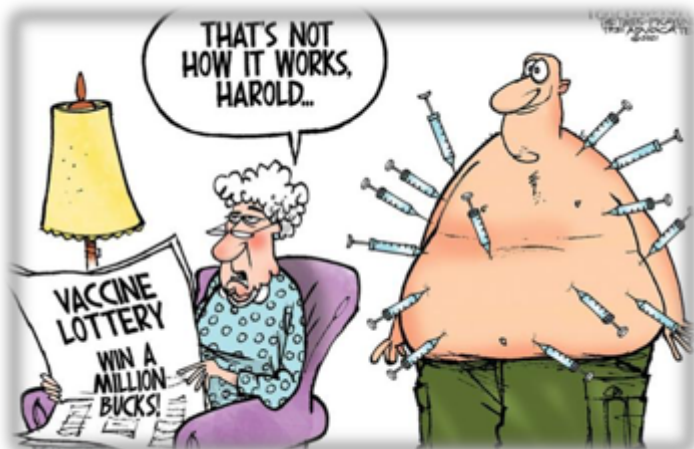
We are also looking for members to take on Board positions and there are a number of vacancies. If you have any queries about becoming a director on the Board, please contact any of the current Board members as follows, Dermot Duncan, Robyn Seale, Maureen Dunn, Cindy Brown, Barbara Oliver and Sharon Johnson.

TEACHING PROS AT THE CLUB



Council and the Lane Cove Golf Club are pleased to announce that effective from 5th October 2021 Clinton Russell and Kasey Dive, pictured left, will be assuming Lane Cove Golf Club management of golf operations and coaching respectively. Many of you will know Kasey who has led a team of dedicated teaching professionals at the Club for a number of years. Clinton is currently the head professional at Northbridge Golf Club and is charged with delivering a pro-shop team to attend to all member and social player golfing needs.

There is no change to the tee time booking (online) process for members and social players, you will be directed to the Quick18 booking platform via <https://www.lanecovegolfclub.com.au/cms> which will also include a link to secure golf lessons with Kasey and her team. You may contact the pro shop staff for tee times by calling 0433 519 974. To book a golf lesson with Kasey and her team, please call 0413 603 918.



CAPTAIN'S CORNER

As I am writing this column it is within reach that lockdown will be finished and we have all (that is the fully vaccinated) returned to some sort of normal life.

As of next week, we should have returned to playing in groups of 4, and your committee can start planning some of the special events we play each year, but because of COVID, we have been unable to do so.

One thing I must ask is that anyone who has not advised the office of their COVID “jab” status, please let the office know ASAP. There will be very few playing spots available to those not fully vaccinated, so it is in your interest to advise the office as soon as you have had the “jabs”.



We are very lucky in that so many of our membership are fully vaccinated thus we do not have to worry about who is playing with who.

One of the most obvious changes in the period going forward is that we have a container sitting on the 1st tee and we are welcoming a new pro shop operator.

Hopefully the changeover will be smooth, but again I ask for patience as with any change sometimes there are hiccups. I will be liaising with the new pro shop to iron out any little problems that occur.

One thing that is different is that our vouchers will now be able to be redeemed at the pro shop. So don't forget that you can put your voucher behind the bar on your account, buy some goods at Porters or pick up some golfing supplies at the pro shop

One thing the Committee will be looking at soon is the obvious problem of slow play. With us going back to groups of 4, and with the booking sheet so full, we may encounter slow play problems.

As I have mentioned many times before, the easiest way to avoid slow play is to be positioned just behind the group in front. I (and the new pro shop operators) will not hesitate to ask groups to catch up with the group in front and on occasions a group may be asked to “walk” a hole.

The flow on effect of an early morning group being slow is felt throughout the day, with some of our later groups encountering public players trying to hit off, as well as our last few groups finishing much later than they should.



Another change with lockdown finished is that the clubhouse should be open. Don't forget that players will now be required to enter their scores in the computer. Even those who use the Miscore app to enter their scores must submit a scorecard for the score to count. If there is any dispute as to a player's score, the Committee will always go to the scorecard to resolve the dispute. No scorecard - no win!

Good Golfing

WAYNE BELGRE

MEN'S GOLF (Backy's Blurbs)

As I've said before, it's difficult recording results remotely, so apologies go out to **Noel Rowland** as I missed mentioning his highlight on 7th August.

An 8 iron is his favoured club on the 3rd hole but goes too high at times, hitting our wonderful 'carbon capturing' overhanging branches. This shot though, was hit a little lower and a brisk walk up the hill was had as it was straight at the pin. Finding only Chris's ball at the front of the green, an optimistic look into the hole found Noel's ball! HOLE-IN-ONE! Unfortunately, one can't see it go in, but euphoric just the same. Congratulations Noel.



LATE BREAKING NEWS. 15Year old **Sebastian Grehen**, pictured left, has also been busy in the hole-in-one area when he holed out on the 6th hole on the 28th September. What a great start to your golfing career! You have a good start on catching some of our previous members' Ace records, such as Hamish Anderson with 5, and Richard Oakenfull who had 4 at our Club and two others elsewhere. Some people have all the luck! Or is it skill? I'm sure if you ask Noel, the hole is the goal.

Some hole-in-one stories

Some years ago, a passenger in my cab apologized when I mentioned Lane Cove Country Club, saying how he had held a corporate golf day for staff and clients. He took a client in his group who had never touched a club in his life and proceeded to hack the hell out of our perfect turf, saying he moved more earth than the Lane Cove Council had in the last month!

Arrive at the 6th and you guessed it, hacker man makes a rare contact with the ball topping one off the tee and down it bobbed and into the hole! The other three in the group were jumping for joy, slapping the nonplussed hacker on the back with congratulations. His reply was, "What's all the excitement, isn't that what you're supposed to do?" OH, THE TRAVESTY!

John Morgan, an old cabbie mate, possibly the worst golfer I've ever had the pleasure of playing with, was quite a character. When we played stroke, I would make sure he was at the back of the field. An example – "What did you have there John?"

"UUUM, let's see. I hit driver, 3 iron, 4 iron, 4 iron, 5 iron, 7 iron, 4 iron wedge, sand iron, 5 iron and 4 putts that's 13!"

"I think it's 14, but we don't have time for another audit, let's go."

John made it his life's mission to win the Bradmans at our social club, but a man can only use so many score card holders or practice putting discs. Until one day we found a wristwatch clicker device for keeping score which he thought was great. Unfortunately, it only counted to 9.

Arrive at the last hole at Monash Country Club and John tops a 4 iron which bounces left and right, hops and bobbles up onto the green and into the hole in front of a packed deck. You could hear the roar in Manly! John bolts straight into the club and onto the public phone and rings his long-suffering war time friend Harry Ratcliff.

Now the story goes as I remember it, was that during WW2, Harry had been John's bomber pilot and John, Harry's tail gunner. (John must have been good at hitting something to survive that! Just not golf balls).

You guessed it, Harry, a very good golfer with a golf pro in the family, had never had an ace. You could hear the cry of disdain across the club!

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MEN'S GOLF continued

Some years later, with Concord GC too long for old Harry, he joined our Club, and the good old 6th gave him his first ace, I'm sure with a proper golf shot. Straight into the clubhouse he shot, depositing his 7 cents into the red phone to tell John, "Stick that in ya pipe and smoke it!"

I'd like to think they're up on the big golf course in the sky still giving each other curry.

IN THE WORDS OF BILLY BRAGG'S LATEST SONG -



Pass it on, pass it on, pass it on

Teach the words of your song

Voices fall silent

but memories live on

Those we remember are never gone.

Vale all our lost family and friends.

MENS GOLF RESULTS

- * On the 1st September, *Peter Kennedy* sprung into spring with 39 points, with 2Ball winners, *Wing Cheung* and *Frank Hurford*, 49 points
- * On the 4th, *Angus Pearce* 40 points won the singles and the 2Ball with *Adam Manticas* with 48 points
- * On the 8th, *Steve Tan* 41 points and won the double with *Paul Kelly* with a 2Ball aggregate of 79 points. It was daylight to the chasers, *Team Happell* and *Wing and Frank*, both pairs on 69.
- * On the 11th it was our illustrious (or should that be industrious) Treasurer's turn, *Alasdair Caush* 41 points holding off a brace of 40s (including Frank - I seem to be typing Frank's name a lot! I wonder if IT can give me a Frank button), 2Ball winners, *Ralph Sadler* and *Frank*... DOH! There he is again.
- * On the 15th *Paul Johnson* 36 points scoring a double with master chef *Dave Martin* 45 points 2Ball
- * On the 18th, *Mark 'Teach' Thompson* scored a great 41 points getting the double with help from *Paul Johnson* having a hot run.
- * On the 22nd, Editor-in-Chief *Ralph Sadler* another great 41 points. *Chris Taylor* gets a special mention coming second with 40 points. Off 5, that's a score of 1 over. Many a golf pro has shown up every year to our PRO-AM and hasn't gotten anywhere near that. Well done Chris! 2Ball win *Stu MacDonald* with Chris held off a three-way C/B from visitor *Jim Bidwell / Richard Biggs* and *Jason Kang / Brian Doherty*.
- * On the 25th, individual score of the month, *John Erasmus* 44 points and then teaming with with *Rick Mayhew* with 76 points aggregate. Well done John!
- * On the 29th *Ralph Sadler* having a good month 38 points pts (perhaps I need a Ralph button too!) The 2Ball was won by *Andrew Reid* and *Paul Kelly* with 47 points.
- * Welcome back to LCGC *Rob Hipsley*, a past Board member and Treasurer, who played recently. Rob now plays at Pymble but with 5 km lockdown restrictions, it means that he cannot play on his home course. Apparently, the 1st tee was in the 5 km radius, but the first green wasn't!

Hopefully I'll be 'unlocked' sooner than later and look forward to getting back onto our unique little course with all my friends. Happy Golfing. Cheers.

BACKY (Bacculus) for and on behalf of EVAN JONES

WOMEN'S GOLF

With September came Spring and a new sense of optimism. The course looked beautiful after some significant rain in August, and we experienced excellent golfing weather for almost all our competitions during the month.

The uncertainty about the Club's future seems to have been alleviated for now and we look forward to using our new 'pro' shop this week. As the numbers of fully-vaccinated members rose, and the daily number of infections started to slowly trend downward, there was a feeling among the women at Lane Cove that things were returning to a new kind of normal. It has been a pleasure to play in threes again and when the distance restrictions are lifted, we look forward to welcoming back our long-time members, Janet Lean and Jackie Sun.



As it was the last week using the tennis centre for our pre-golf activities, the ladies said their 'good-byes' to Kylie and thanked her for her help and friendliness over the years she has worked there for us. On behalf of us all, Captain Robyn Glover and President Joan Weine presented Kylie with flowers and a bottle of bubbles to express our thanks and good wishes.

Farewell to Kylie and SSMG staff at the Tennis Centre

Captain's Salver, President's Cup and Gold Brooch

As was mentioned in the last edition, our Life Member **Helen Prentice** (33) won the Captain's Salver on Thursday 2nd September with 40 points. It is worth a second mention because on Sunday 12th, Helen followed up with a great score of Nett 61 in the President's Cup to win the coveted Gold Brooch. What a great time to peak, Helen! As she said, "It has taken 28 years!"

Helen consolidated with another 40-point win on Thursday 30th. Congratulations, Helen, on a month of excellent golf.

Although Helen won the Gold Brooch, she was actually the runner-up on the day. The winner of the President's Cup was another of our long-time members, **Jan Sadler** (32), who came in after her 'best game ever' with an exciting Nett score of 60. This was a fantastic result, coming in ahead of Helen's 61, and the enviably low scores submitted by young Sebastian Grehan (7) and Yvie Nikellys (29) both on Nett 64 and Jo Cunningham (24) with Nett 65. Jan had won the Gold Brooch some years before.

Salver and Cup Winners - Helen Prentice and Jan Sadler



Hole in One

On Tuesday 28th, our young man, Sebastian Grehan, who is 16 years old and playing off a daily handicap of 7, came in with a score of 38 points and a Hole-in-One on 6th! Your correspondent had the pleasure of meeting Sebastian and Lisa Blackwell as they were walking to the 7th and barely able to contain their excitement.

When asked what kind of a shot he'd played, Sebastian described the ball as having hit the ground before the green and bouncing once straight into the hole. Oh my! (Editor's note; see picture and report of Sebastian's hole-in-one in Men's Golf)

Continued over

WOMEN'S GOLF continued

Good golf

You will see below that there were some excellent results during September with several players notching up more than one win. Mary Suter and Maree Faulkner were notable among the 9-holers. Mary had a remarkable 28 points in one game where 'everything just went right.' Maree's handicap has dropped after winning five times during the month.

In the 18-hole comps, Jason Kang won twice with scores of 43 and 40. Lyndal Tearle has been rewarded with scores of 40 and 38, and Joan Weine has been consistent with two scores of 38 and a 36. Robyn Seale is doing well after a long break last year, scoring 38 and 20 for a 9-hole comp. Yvie Nikellys, who played like a demon in August, has celebrated her new under-30 handicap by winning twice with scores of 37 and 38.

Stableford results

| | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Sunday 4 | Robyn McElvenny (40) | 36 |
| 9 holes | Mary Suter (48) | 21 |
| Tuesday 7 | Michele Nelson (25) | 40 Nice! |
| 9 holes | Mary Suter (48) | 19 CB |
| | Kerin Moorehead (37) | 19 |
| Thursday 9 | Jason Kang (20) | 43 Great score! |
| | Joan Weine (22) | 38 |
| 9 holes | Robyn Seale (42) | 20 Making a great comeback! |
| Tuesday 14 | Maree Faulkner (48) | 19 (9-hole comp only this day) |
| Thursday 16 | Rosemary Hurford (34) | 34 |
| 9 holes | Robyn Seale (43) | 15 |
| Sunday 19 | Joan Weine (22) | 38 |
| | Robyn Glover (29) | 36 Captain and President played very well. |
| 9 holes | Bronwyn Arnold (39) | 21 Excellent |
| Tuesday 21 | Jason Kang (18) | 40 Another good score on a lower HC. |
| | Robyn Seale (43) | 38 Three nice games in a row |
| 9 holes | Mary Suter (48) | 28 This was exceptional! |
| | Maree Faulkner (46) | 21 Another great result |
| | Rosemary Hurford (33) | 19 |
| Thursday 23 | Lisa Blackwell (38) | 39 A much lower handicap and a great score |
| | Lyndal Tearle (41) | 38 |
| | Sebastian Grehan (7) | 37 |
| 9 holes | Maree Faulkner (46) | 19 |
| Sunday 26 | Yvie Nikellys (29) | 37 New handicap and lovely golf! |
| | Joan Weine (22) | 36 Hard to win these days! |
| | Sebastian Grehan (7) | 35 |
| 9 holes | Susan Woodman (39) | 17 <i>Continued over</i> |

WOMEN'S GOLF continued

| | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Tuesday 28 | Sebastian Grehan (7) | 38 Hole-in-one mentioned above |
| | Vanna Mutton (25) | 37 |
| 9 holes | Susan Ridd (28) | 22 CB |
| | Maree Faulkner (46) | 22 |
| Thursday 30 | Helen Prentice (31) | 40 CB |
| | Lyndal Tearle (41) | 40 Two very good scores in a row |
| | Yvie Nikellys (28) | 38 Handicap still going down! |

And to finish, it is obvious from the results for Sunday of the long weekend that our golfers are on a roll and the course is playing kindly. Three men, John Dowey, Sebastian and Hugo Grehan topped the 18-hole field with scores of 40, 39 and 38 respectively. Linda Tsung (42) and Jo Cunningham (24) and Yvie Nikellys (27) all scored 37. Maree Faulkner won the 9-hole comp again with 20 points. It is a thrill to report these scores.

The next Links will be published in November! It is usually a month of social activity leading up to the holiday period. It will be a very welcome change if we have some social news to report next time.

In the meantime, enjoy your golf.

SUSAN RIDD

