



# LINKS

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

**VOLUME 18**

**NO 5**

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## **FROM THE PRESIDENT**



We have now entered what is very likely to be the final month in which we can enjoy our familiar and beloved clubhouse. If the tenders received by Council on 26<sup>th</sup> June are within budget, they will proceed swiftly with demolition. If they are over budget, Council have a “Plan B” and they expect that the delay will only be until September. We will communicate the outcome to members as soon as we are notified by Council.

Thus, we are looking at the weekend of 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> June as the intended last opportunity for members to play golf and socialise in the clubhouse.

The Board have made an offer to the golf committees that we will pick up the bill for food served to golfing members who play and stay on those days and some part of the bar tab – limits yet to be determined! Let us hope this balmy weather continues for the rest of this month.

Members will notice some physical changes around the course. The new bridge over the gully from the men’s 2<sup>nd</sup> tee is being installed this week. The temporary tee on the 1<sup>st</sup> and a temporary 7<sup>th</sup> green will be prepared during the next week with an expectation that excavation will commence after the long weekend for the stormwater solution for the development at 4 Northwood Road.

Council have agreed that they will not install the temporary green keeping sheds in front of the 1<sup>st</sup> tee until after they have received the decision to proceed, so that we can revert to using the full length of the 1<sup>st</sup> fairway if the development is delayed.

I would like to take this opportunity to publicly observe the great improvement in the course since Connor has taken the reins as our new head greenkeeper. He is very enthusiastic and has a great eye for detail – many issues we have put up with for a long time are now being addressed and it is great to see these improvements.

**Continued over**



## ***FROM THE PRESIDENT continued***

There are many moving parts to the establishment of the facilities at Gamma Road that I outlined in last month's edition of *Links*, and I will update members whenever I have concrete information. Council have confirmed that it is their intention to provide as seamless a transition as possible for the golfers, but we should be prepared for the first week or two to be less than ideal. Members who store equipment or any other belongings on the clubhouse premises must remove them by Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June.

We have negotiated with Council the membership fees for the new financial year that will enable us to offer an annual membership subscription of \$700 for adult members and a competition fee of \$10 for 18 holes and \$7 for 9 holes. Current members will receive a renewal advice in the first working days of July, which is our usual process. We do not want to receive any subscriptions until the new financial year. Existing members who choose not to renew will be eligible to play in competition until the end of July.

The configuration of the course during the construction period will not be finalised until the builder is appointed. I have this week proposed to Council that if the 9<sup>th</sup> is unavailable, that instead of playing 11a as the replacement hole, we play a par 3 to the 8<sup>th</sup> green from the 9<sup>th</sup> fairway, so that we can play the current 2<sup>nd</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> as a satisfying final hole. This is also a better solution for Kasey as her team could then use the



11a for most of their teaching time. I will be writing to Golf NSW this week to begin the process of rating the possible variations to the course.

I have had enquiries from male members concerned about the management of their competitions, due to the rumours of a cohort of members leaving the Club to play at Gordon in the new financial year. I have written to the men's committee to ask for clarification of their intentions and ability to continue in their role and I expect an answer this week. We will work with the Pro Shop to organise a tactical solution and begin the larger discussion about streamlining our organisational structure into a single committee. I would like to assure all members that once we are relieved of the responsibility of running a licensed premises, our primary focus will be on managing our golf competitions and

keeping our cohort of members connected until we can meet again in the new premises.

I am very sad that Ralph Sadler, our esteemed editor for the last 18 years, has given notice that this is his last edition of *Links*. He has done an outstanding job of a gig that is certainly a labour of love, and we all owe him our deep appreciation.

The Board is keen to keep up communications with members, but for the short term that is likely to be via the weekly newsletter that goes out via email and Facebook, rather than the monthly magazine-style of this *Links* publication. Anyone reading this who does not already receive the weekly newsletter, please contact Amanda at [info@lanecovegolfclub.com.au](mailto:info@lanecovegolfclub.com.au) to be put on the subscription list.

Warm regards,

***CINDY BROWN***



## **CAPTAIN'S CORNER**



Sadly, my last column for the wonderful publication known as *Links*. This newsletter has been the source of information for our members for a long time and with the changing landscape of the Club we may not see its production into the future. Will be sadly missed.

On the golfing front, the last month has seen our number one major, the Club Championship, being played with some very exciting, good and bad, golf being played.

C Grade saw **Peter Siapos** spreadeagle the field to win easily.

B Grade saw the defending champion **David Pritchard**, come back, and defend his title.

A Grade went right down to the wire, with **Peter Doherty** having to par the last to win. He did so and in the process won his 6<sup>th</sup> Club Championship. Congratulations to our newest Club Champions.

As everyone should be aware, the last Saturday the clubhouse will be open is Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June. The Board and the Men's Committee have decided to have a "celebration" day to see the old clubhouse off.

We want as many members as possible playing that day and to stay around for some food and drinks to "celebrate" the closing. The word has gone out to many old members and hopefully the deck will be filled to capacity with members, old and new, telling stories of the glory days at Lane Cove Golf Club. I'm sure there are many stories that can be told

I can tell you one story. I'm playing with my usual group having our usual bet on the day's golf. We are all square playing the last and my partner steps up and proceeds to have a hole in one on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Needless to say we won the money!

Don't forget the course is staying open during construction, albeit in a somewhat changed format. Even those members who are going elsewhere to play should come back every now and then during construction to play the odd round in support of our Club.



It is very important we continue to support the course in this way as this will leave the Council no choice but to re-open the course when the works are completed.

As this is my last column, I want to thank my Men's Committee for their outstanding work over many years. We are a small club who have a lot of fun playing golf.

Others to thank are the bar and food staff for their support again over many years, especially Amanda. Amanda went above and beyond on numerous occasions in all sorts of ways. Without Amanda re-writing the whiteboard scores each week we might still be trying to figure out who won.

Finally, thanks to all who have contributed to the production of *Links* each month for the last 18 years. Many people have made contributions but none more than our fabulous editor and life member Ralph Sadler who put his life on hold on the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend of each month to ensure our newsletter went out on time.

**WAYNE BELGRE**

## **MEN'S GOLF (Backy's Blurb)**

Greetings all.

### **CLUB CHAMPS for 2023**



#### **Club Championship winners 2023;**

**L to R Dave Pritchard (B Grade), Peter Doherty (A Grade and Club Championship), Peter Siapos (C Grade)**

**Club Champion** 2023 for 6<sup>th</sup> time is..... ..Peter DOHERTY with 288  
Runner Up Declan McMahon 289

Congratulations Peter, achieving multiple wins not quite catching an old rival, Davin Tearle, with 7, but beating B. Vesich with 5.

#### **B GRADE**

WINNER Dave PRITCHARD 327  
Runner Up Paul Johnson 341

A special mention for Dave for a repeat performance as he defended his win from last year! Well done, Dave.

#### **C GRADE**

WINNER Peter SIAPOS 350  
Runner Up Glenn Burge 361

#### **May Medal, 6 May**

##### **A Grade**

Win Andrew Corish (8) 71-63 R/up Tim Sinclair (12) 76-64 Scratch; Peter Doherty 69

##### **B Grade**

Win John Joyce (15) 80-65 R/up Steve Tan (16) 83-67 Scratch; John Joyce 80

##### **C Grade**

Win Peter Siapos (20) 83-63 R/up Glenn Burge (23) 88-65 Scratch; Peter Siapos 83

#### **Other Results**

##### **3 May 2B Aggregate**

Paul Hofman (15) John Stephenson (23) 67

Singles win; Rob Emerson (23) 41

9 holes; Tim Sinclair (13) 19

##### **13 May Par**

Paul Hofman (15) John Stephenson (23) +9

Singles win; John Stephenson (23) +3

9 holes; Paul Johnson (15) 18

##### **17 May 2bbb**

Completing an amazing dominant run! Paul Hofman (15) John Stephenson (22) 40

Singles win; Steve Tan (16) 31

9 holes; Bruce Trevena (11) 16

**Continued over**

## ***MEN'S GOLF continued***



### **20 May 2bbb**

Andrew Reid (19) Mark Dooley (29) 46

Singles win; Andrew Reid (19) 35

9 holes; Shawn Tang 19

### **24 May 2b multiplier**

Dave Pritchard (12) Stuart McDonald (15) 61

Singles win; Stuart McDonald (15) 34

9 holes; Bruce Trevena 15

### **27 May 2bbb**

Mark Simonsen (13) Bob Staley (16) 43 c/b From Howard Shaw and Rob Emerson

Singles win; a 4-way c/b Howard Shaw (20) 36 From Simonsen, Leckie and Limmer!

### **31 May aggregate**

Walter Heim (19) Adrian Hall (19) 67 c/b from Ian Butters and Wayne Belgre. (Apparently a 3 putt from 8 feet on the last can cost you. Not saying who's to blame, but the reader may glean the fact from the following result.) Singles win; one Ian Butters (18) 38

9 holes; Mark Thompson (19) 14

Finally, with this being the last edition of Links, and with our beloved clubhouse about to be closed, it seems to me that the 19<sup>th</sup> hole is the most important one to many.

Players are going to or already have made a move to other courses. The uncertainty of what will become of our little track was/is a motivating factor.

A special thanks goes to our hard-working staff and Board. Thank you, Amanda, who is, I believe, the most hardworking bar and events manager we've ever had the privilege to have on our team.

So too, the Club has been very lucky to have Kent running things so well from the office, so thank you Kent.

Good Golfing to all our members, wherever you play!

Finally, my late Dad taught me a lot of things. He left us way too early in 1985 at the age of 57. That is why I rode my bicycle around OZ when I turned 57 to celebrate his life and raise money for the Leukemia foundation.

My blog is still up, resplendent with pics, if anyone wants to read any more of my palaver, the link is [give.everydayhero.com/au/jeffrey-14](http://give.everydayhero.com/au/jeffrey-14) The charity feature is closed and you have to scroll all the way to the bottom to read it in context. Anyway, he was not only a great father but a friend and lucky for me, a co-worker.

He taught me about honesty, morality and ethics, but most importantly GOLF and CYCLING! He had two sayings he always preached; "do unto others as you would have them do unto you". The other one is more pertinent as to our current Club/Council/Course situation. "If you can't say something nice, say nothing at all."

Here endeth the blurb.

Cheers!

***BACKY***





## **WOMEN'S GOLF**

We have enjoyed beautiful autumn days over the past weeks. Perfect for golf and celebrating birthdays.

Many happy returns to Jan Sadler, Rosemary Hurford, Jo Cunningham, Lyndal Tearle and three special ladies who had significant birthdays in May.

### **Big Birthday Celebration**



More than 30 ladies helped Jackie Sun celebrate her 80th, Anne Reilley her 90<sup>th</sup>, and Margaret Tanner her 103<sup>rd</sup>. Well done birthday ladies.

Jackie still plays and we enjoy her telling stories of past events at the Club. Many of us had not seen Anne in a long time and catching up with her was wonderful. Margaret continues to be an inspiration to us all.

Past members, Mary Smith, Marlene Connor, Jenny Walsh, Maureen Dunn, Marie Hucker and Vana Mutton came for lunch to join the festivities.

Janet Lean, Helen Prentice and Maureen Dunn reminded us of some of the achievements and humorous antidotes of the special birthday ladies.

A big thank you to Sue Woodman who made a delicious cake and creative floral arrangements for each table, with flowers and greenery from her own garden. Also thank you to Robyn McElvenny who provided us with reminders of the past from the Club's photo collection.

### **Golf News**

It was an active month as we played Medal Rounds and the three Championship Rounds. We have all admired the course over the past month and are appreciative of the work of the Greenkeepers. Their hard work is evident as we are now playing all holes and the course is looking great.

### **Club Champion**

An amazing result has been achieved by Suzique Doughty. With scores of 89, 84 and 94, Suzique is our 2023 Club Champion. Champagne glasses need to be raised as this is the 6th time Suzique has won this top prize. A fabulous achievement.

#### **2023 Club Champions** – Congratulations!

<b>Club Champion</b>	Suzique Doughty	267
<b>A Grade Nett Champion</b>	Lily Guo	202
<b>B Grade Champion</b>	Rosanne Antico-Hall	329
<b>B Grade Nett Champion</b>	Kerin Moorehead	219



***Rosanne Antico-Hall and  
Suzique Doughty***

### **Gold Brooch Results**

It was a thrilling win for Sunday player Margot Anderson (31) nett 71 who won on a countback from Cindy Brown.

The Thursday winner, Sharon Johnson (30) Nett 69, was delighted with her success. Congratulations to Sharon on winning the Gold brooch!

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## ***WOMEN'S GOLF continued***

### **Championship Rounds Results**

#### **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May**

##### Div 1 Winners

Nett	Lily Guo (24)	65
Scratch	Lily Guo	89
(C/B from Suzique Doughty)		
Putting	Robyn Glover	30

##### Div 2 Winners

Nett	Rosanne Antico-Hall (39)	72
Scratch	Rosanne Antico-Hall	111
Putting	Linda Tsung	33



#### **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May**

Div 1 Winners	Nett	Susan Ridd (29)	65	Congratulations
	Scratch	Susan Ridd	94	Susan-Monthly Medal
	Putting	Susan Ridd	31	
Div 2 Winners	Nett	Kerin Moorehead (40)	68	
	Scratch	Kerin Moorehead	108	
	Putting	Kerin Moorehead	32	

#### **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May**

Div 1 Winners	Nett	Suzique Doughty (19)	65	Congratulations
	Scratch	Suzique Doughty	84	Suzique-Monthly Medal
	Putting	Suzique Doughty	31	
Div 2 Winners	Nett	Rosanne Antico-Hall (39)	69	
	Scratch	Rosanne Antico-Hall	108	
	Putting	Rosanne Antico-Hall	33	

#### **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May**

Div 1 Winners	Nett	Susan Ridd (28)	66	Congratulations
	Scratch	Susan Ridd	94	Susan-Monthly Medal
	Putting	Sharon Johnson	35	
Div 2 Winners	Nett	Helen Prentice (45)	71	
	Scratch	Helen Prentice	106	
	Putting	Robyn Seale	28	

#### **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May**

Div 1 Winners	Nett	Robyn Glover (33)	68	Congratulations
	(C/B from Lily Guo and Amy Thai)			Robyn-Monthly Medal
	Scratch	Lily Guo	91	
Div 2. Winners	Putting	Lily Guo	30	
	Nett	Roseanne Antico-Hall (39)	71	
	Scratch	Roseanne Antico-Hall	110	
	Putting	Linda Tsung	36	

#### **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May**

Div 1 Winners	Nett	Sharon Johnson (30)	69	Congratulations
	Scratch	Sharon Johnson	99	Sharon-Monthly Medal
	Putting	Yvonne Nikellys	35	Medal (CB R Glover. C Brown)
Div 2 Winners	Nett	Kerin Moorehead (39)	70	
	Scratch	Kerin Moorehead	109	
	Putting	Helen Prentice	33	

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## **LINKS 2006-2023 continued**

Of these 40 members, several have made a regular contribution over many years. First of these people is Wayne Belgre who has unfailingly, and always on time, provided copy for Blunt's Player of the Month, from 2008-2019, and the Captain's Corner from 2015 until this month's edition.

Wayne has been the most reliable contributor over all the years of his involvement. Almost always the first in with copy and I cannot recall any time that he was not on time. Thanks Wayne from a grateful editor.



Wayne liaised weekly with Blunts Real Estate at Lane Cove, who provided a monthly award of \$50 to the adjudged best-performing member for the month on an alternative male-female winner basis. The monthly winners were identified and reported upon unfailingly from month to month. I'm sure that Wayne has a record of all the winners. A very general estimate is that over the years from 2008, Blunts generously

donated \$600 a year to our members, more than \$6000 over the years up to 2019 and all reported monthly by Wayne.

Life Member Helen Prentice has been supplying copy since the second edition in August 2006, and her contribution has been wide-ranging. The Pro-am was reported on for many years, and Friday 9'n Dine notices were a monthly feature for some years. Perhaps Helen's most significant contribution was as a member of the Golf Course Management Committee (GCMC)

Together with Ian Butters, Helen reported monthly and in detail, the doings of this committee under the heading of *Towards a Better Course*. Long-standing members would recall that the GCMC was made up of Council representatives as well as members drawn from the public and it was an influential presence on issues related to the course for some time, with the restoration of the 17<sup>th</sup> green being a major achievement.

Ian Butters was also a regular contributor as a member of the GCMC, and several times, the club's poet laureate would produce a special poem for any important or humorous occasion or event. In contrast, and turning his hand to any topic, Ian also provided an eclectic range of mesmerising items such as insurance for golf club members.

What follows is an identification of those other people who have made contributions, to *Links*, some regularly over a number of years and some as a one-off. I'm sure our long-term members will recall many of these names from past years.

Six club presidents since 2006 have made monthly contributors. Some were more able to meet a regular edition deadline, some found this difficult. Busy people. Some more had the gift of an easy and inclusive writing style, others not, but I am not going to identify which and whom.

Suffice to say that they all eventually had a go, but if pressed, I did enjoy President Dave Haugh's monthly message.



Barry Watkin	2006-2008
Dave Haugh	2009- 2014
Mike Meade	2014 2017
Alan Moss	2017 -2019
Dermot Duncan	2019 -2020
Cindy Brown	2021–2023.

**Continued over**

## **LINKS 2006-2023 continued**

Women's golf has been reported upon by the women listed below. A distinguishing feature of the women's contributions is that the ladies seemed to be more able to provide some continuity to the reporting task than the men. A total of 8 women have reported over the years and are listed with the years of their contribution as follows.

Janet Lean 2006, 2007-08, 2011  
Averill Chase 2006, 2009 - 2013  
Vana Mutton 2008  
Jan Sadler 2009, 2011, 2013  
Robyn McElvenny 2009  
Rosemary Hurford 2014  
Sue Kallas 2014 -2019  
Susan Ridd 2020- 2023

Stand outs of the women were Averill Chase with 5-6 years of reporting, Sue Kallas, 7 years, and more recently, Susan Ridd, 4 years from 2020 to 2023.

The men were a more disparate group, with a number of "one-off" contributors including The Phantom. And I never did find out who that was. Some voices from the past in this lot.

2006	Peter Smee, Peter Doherty, Gary Holmes
2008	Gary Ashworth, Dave Coffey
2009	<i>The Phantom</i> , Paul Sullivan, Greg Deacon
2010	Steve Barnes
2010-11	Tony Larwood

Tony Larwood was the first to provide some continuity. And he brought with it a very idiosyncratic style.

*"I don't think we shall put any results in this time. If you won, you know about it, if you lost, you don't want to be reminded about it"* and his sign off,  
*"may the only grass you cut at the weekend be with the blade of a 9 iron."*

2012	Greg Deacon
2013	Fred Tearle
2014-2021	Evan Jones was a standout amongst the men's golf over 7 or 8 years of reporting, and always with a light and humorous touch. He seemed to be having a good time with it.
2021 -2023	Finally, the inimitable Jeff Back has also established some continuity, and he holds the title of being able to produce a report with the most digressions from the central focus.

An interesting difference between the men's and women's reports over the years is that the women's reports were often as much social news as golfing items. The men much less so, with an almost total focus on golf related matters. Make what you like from that observation!



Some of our pros have also appeared in the pages of Links, selling us golfing gear or helping us to be better golfers. These include - Ken Druce, Jason Benham, Scott Fisher, James Purcell, Remember these? And of course, our current pro, Kasey Dive

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## **LINKS 2006-2023 continued**

And, if anyone is ever interested in writing the history of the Club, *Links* provides a continuing history over this period. All 18 years are available as hard copy, backed up online and on a usb stick. I will ensure that these records are maintained in the Club archives and not lost during the changeover associated with the precinct redevelopment.



You will no doubt have noticed that I have included a number of pictures to honour the clubhouse and course.

This final edition might become a collector's item! A special thanks to the team of Cindy Brown, Susan Ridd, Wayne Belgre and Jeff Back. You can all take it easy now, no more reminder messages re copy production each month.

Many thanks too to Amanda who has been the end of the team chain in sending out the newsletter each month via the Club's email. Amanda several times saved me some embarrassment from editorial glitches, eg John not James Anderson!

My apologies for the length of this sign off. Hard to say what needed to be said in fewer words. Just as well I kept myself under a tight rein over the years and let the members' voice be heard.!

Finally, no words of wise or aged exhortation to regale you with, just my grateful thanks to all who have been involved with the production of *Links* over the 18 years that it has been my pleasure to carry out the editing role. I hope you enjoyed what we did and I hope Bigsy is satisfied with what I was able to achieve, and that we have met those targets we set ourselves in 2006.

The next couple of years are going to be interesting with the scattering of members and the imminent demolition of our wonderful old clubhouse and the Club under pressure to survive a number of hits. Good luck to those members who have made a move to another club. I think I understand the decision to make the change.

I will be maintaining my membership of the Club and hope to be around to see it rise phoenix like when the dust settles, if you will pardon this last pun, on the golf precinct development.

**RALPH SADLER**

**And finally, some more Peanuts! (Space filler!)**

