



This is the second edition of 'The Fairway'.

I hope it proves to be a very informative and entertaining communication tool for members and guests.

I thank our contributors for taking the time to provide important information and news to share with our members. Anyone can submit an article, information or provide ideas for improvement of 'The Fairway'.

It is intended that 'The Fairway' be available on each men's medal day in printed format or it can be downloaded via the club's website.

The photos in this edition are from the Saturday of the Triple Classic played at Castlemaine.

Closing date for the April edition is Monday March 29th.

*Michael Bottomley*

## Golf Report

### Triple Classic

A big thank you to all of those who contributed towards the success of the Triple Classic last weekend.

Despite extremely difficult weather conditions we managed to get through. A number of our members worked tirelessly assisting with course preparation, cleaning the club house, food preparation and sales, selling raffle tickets, starting fields and scoring etc. Without this support it would be impossible to conduct such an event.

We also recognise the enormous efforts of our course superintendent Glenn Carroll to present the course in such excellent condition. His effort



in cutting greens at 5.00am on the Saturday morning is particularly appreciated. The other clubs had a later start and did not require this level of commitment.

Thanks also to members who supported the event by playing. Playing numbers for the weekend were Castlemaine 95, Bendigo 79 and Heathcote 85.

Some outstanding performances were recorded by our members over the three days. At Castlemaine Matt O'Brien blitzed it around in 73 for a nett 67 to win A grade (this is also a new joint course record with Anthony Masters) and Graham Marshall 78/9/69 was runner up.

In B grade Glenn Lorenz continued his run of lifting for big events to win 83/12/71.

In C Grade club legend Max Gale was runner up 91/19/72. What a delight it is to see Max back in form and enjoying his golf. I have had the privilege of playing a few rounds with Max in recent times. He provides a real insight into how to play our course and is full of praise for its development.





Jenna Harding bolted in the ladies 54 hole event by 16 shots. Outstanding Jenna.

It was also a tremendous effort by our budding star John Howorth who had a tremendous tournament winning the 54 hole B grade Scratch and nett with Gross scores of 85, 87 and 80.

## Pennant

Men's pennant kicks off this weekend. Congratulations to the following who have been nominated as captains. Division 1 Rob Prendergast, Div 2 Craig Day, Div3 Glenn Lorenz and Div 5 Leon Thomas. This is the most number of teams we have entered for some time. Good luck to all involved.



## Handicapping

The new handicapping system for men and women is to be implemented on April 9th this year. The system is based on the best 10 scores from each players last 20 multiplied by a factor of 0.96. No longer will there be a CCR. Instead until the new course rating system is completed will revert to the ACR 71 (men) and ALCR 72 (ladies). Women golfers have not used a CCR for some time.

Some of our men may be in for surprises as where scores have been recorded with a CCR of 70 Golf link will automatically adjust that to the ACR of 71. An example of this would be Peter Verlaan recording 82/14/68 (just pretending Peter) with a CCR of 70 Peter would then have lost 0.6 of a shot. With the ACR of 71 Peter would have in fact lost 0.9.

## Syllabus

The new edition should be out soon. A big thank you to Heather Braid and Kay Francis for their efforts in preparing the syllabus. This is a time consuming job and we appreciate their efforts.

I would like to put in a plug for our may Tournament (last weekend in May). It would be great if members could start inviting friends to visit and participate.

## Reciprocal Clubs

We welcome Bright Golf Club to our list of

reciprocal clubs. Members can now play at Bright for half green fees.

## Twilight Golf

Why not join our golf enthusiasts on a Friday evening at around 5.30pm and play in the 9 hole competition? Bring your own tucker and enjoy a BBQ in the pleasant surrounds by the lake.

## Green Fees

Some members have been really assisting by "reminding" visitors to pay their green fees BEFORE they play. It is interesting to note the main offenders in not paying appear to be locals. The more \$\$\$ we raise through green fees will enable us to keep membership subscriptions low. Anyone experiencing difficulties with non payers should contact a committee member, Glenn or if necessary the police. Recording number plates can assist if the matter is serious.

*Peter Williams coordinator of Golf*

## Course Management

The annual greens maintenance was to be completed this past week but due to the wonderful rain has been deferred to early next week. For the next couple of weeks the greens will be slow and sandy. This maintenance is essential if we are to have strong growth in our greens over winter.

Following this the staff and volunteers hope to sow the new practice putting green. This new putting green will be the main focus of activities over the next few weeks with the hope to have it available in about ten weeks.

New automatic sprinklers will be added to the 17th 13th and 11th fairways and a large amount of soil has been acquired for the 17th fairway. This soil will be stock piled to the side of the fairway and used at a later date to convert this fairway from our worst to one of our best.

To all members please keep giving feed back and ideas to the course committee and keep inviting visitors to play our improving golf course.

*Gavin Lang*



## Strategic Planning

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*Members: Ross Shimmen, Heather Braid, David Roos, Michael Bottomley, Jen Dyer*

The last few weeks have been busy with much stimulating debate about how to move things forward. Work is progressing well on a number of projects.

**New Club Brochure.** Team members have reviewed examples from other clubs and discussed the style and content of a new Club brochure. A first draft is currently being prepared.

**Grant Success.** Mount Alexander Shire Council has granted the Club \$1,500 from the Community Grants Scheme for 'Come and Try' activities, an initiative which will help increase golf participation. Well done, Ross!

**Castlemaine Visitor Information Centre.** The Club membership has been paid and we are now starting to use the resources of the Visitor Information Centre.

**Marketing Strategy Plan.** Team members held a special meeting to commence review and updating of the Marketing Strategy Plan 2006-2008. It is expected that this work will be completed in mid 2010.

**Strategic and Business Planning Initiative.** Garry Henshall and Associates have been appointed to facilitate the 'Planning For Our Future' project which is being funded by a State government grant. We hope to commence in March have a final document completed by the end of June.

**Sponsorship.** A start has been made on reviewing our Club's sponsorship approach and identifying further opportunities for sponsorship. Many thanks to Heather for her effort and enthusiasm in following up our Business Sponsorships and to all of the Business Sponsors who have signed up with the Club.



We really appreciate our Business Sponsors support and encourage all Club members to shop with/ purchase services from you.

*If you have any ideas about marketing or sponsorship please talk to Ross, Heather, David, Michael or myself.*

*Jen Dyer, 5476 2494*

## The Tale Of Two Veterans

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On a beautiful Monday morning two well known club personalities set off for their fortnightly Vets Day at Heathcote trailer in tow with cart and buggy.

You can imagine the conversation in the car – course conditions, fishing, football (reliving when Melbourne and Collingwood used to play in grand finals) and unraveling last Saturdays disappointing round.

But with renewed enthusiasm and having buoyed each other into playing the round of their life they arrived in Heathcote. Alighting from the car their expressions changed to one of horror as they went to unload their cart and buggy- alas the trailer was not there. Can you imagine both gentlemen scratching their heads and uttering non printable verbal expressions.

But with clear minds they decided to back track all the way back to Sutton Grange where the trailer was resting on the side of the road with cart and buggy still on board.

Relieved and with trailer hooked up again they arrived back in Heathcote with red faces wondering how such a thing could happen to them.

According to the cart and buggy they were protesting against the life they lead with our two veterans. They were complaining of the abuse and mistreatment they have to endure – zigzagging fairways, having scraps with trees and bushes, being belted with golf clubs and having close shaves with water holes.

Apparently there has been reconciliation and a new golf nuptials drawn up between owner and vehicle – we hope it lasts for Stan and Lynton's sake!!!

## NEW MEMBERS

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We welcome Anne Halliwell, Adam Scoles, Brendan Bassett and Hartley Bassett as new members to our club.

Please make them welcome and we hope they enjoy their golf and the opportunities the club offers.

## From the House

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### Bar

We now have the bar open to serve members on a Saturday afternoon (much better than self help) but we need members to support this by volunteering to give an hour every few weeks. Enough names will allow a roster.

The intention is for the bar to be open from 4.00-6.00pm. We need early finishing player(s) to serve from 4-5.00pm and then others from 5.00-6.00pm.

### Responsible Serving Of Alcohol Course

As our functions increase and we spread the load of staffing such events we need to increase our members with the Responsible Serving of Alcohol Certificate.

## Functions

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### Themed Food Nights

To further improve the social aspect of our club it is planned to hold themed food nights for members and guests every two months on a Friday night.

#### Dates for 2010

<b>Friday March 19<sup>th</sup></b>	Fish and Chips Bill Barker and Gordon Stevens hosting
<b>Friday May 21<sup>st</sup></b>	Italian
<b>Friday July 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	Curry
<b>Friday September 24<sup>th</sup></b>	Grand Final eve – Footy Food
<b>Saturday December 18<sup>th</sup></b>	Christmas Breakup

All evenings 6.30pm for 7.00pm. excepting the December break-up which will be after golf on the Saturday.

There is a course on Wednesday March 31<sup>st</sup>. at the Campbells Creek Football Netball Clubrooms.

Cost is \$40.00. Our club will pay 50% of the cost for members willing to enroll in the course.

If interested please contact Michael Bottomley.

## Cleaning

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Thank you to Pearl and other members who did such a great job cleaning our clubhouse inside and out for the triple classic.

Thank you to Neil Campbell who has taken on the task to remove our 'empties' to the local depot.

## Women's Golf

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Ladies golf over the summer despite hot conditions has been well attended, especially the Saturday morning nine hole comp.

Marj Lang had a great round in our Tuesday comp. Stroke was played and Marj recorded a scratch score of 83, as preferred lies have been lifted this is a course record. Congratulations Marj!! This round was in addition to her February Monthly Medal score of 84 scratch.

### What will she do next?

The Gold Star round for February goes to Michelle O'Brien. A game of Stableford was played, Michelle had not played golf for at least six months prior. Under hot conditions she recorded a score of 41 points, despite a dash from the 17th to the clubhouse and back to help with a first aid emergency she continued her round and to cap off the day won nearest the pin as well!!!! Just shows what can happen when all the children are at school at last!!!!

We will be holding our ladies open day on Tuesday 23rd March and hope to have a good field on the day

**Cheers** *Kay Francis*

**Fish & Chip  
Night**

FRIDAY MARCH 19TH

6.30PM FOR 7.00PM.

AT – CASTLEMAINE GOLF CLUB

\$5.00 AND DRINKS AT BAR PRICES

A THANK YOU TO LES PRENDERGAST

Book by next Wednesday with

Phil Freeman or Michael Bottomley