

MOLLYMOOK VETERANS NEWSLETTER

November 2023

For your calendar

Hilltop Annual Presentation
Wednesday 6th December
after golf.

Beachside annual
Presentation Wednesday 6th
December after golf.



11th Hole Mollymook Golf Club

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the last presentation of the Mollymook Vets committee for 2023.

Again, I would like to thank all of you for your support over the past 12 months. It has been a good year and hopefully we can look forward to a bigger and better one in 2024.

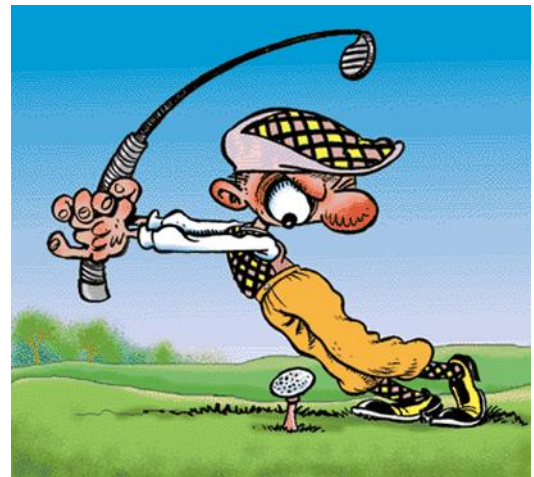
I would like to wish you and your families a happy and healthy Christmas and New Year and if you are travelling, please take care on the roads.

See you back on the fairways late January.

Grant Knight

HERE I LIE

by SANDY MacDIVOT



ACTION AROUND THE FAIRWAYS AND GREENS

October was another month of fine weather and a number of fine performances were achieved by our Vet members. At Beachside Colin Boardman blitzed the field with plus 6 (for 9 holes!) in a par event which was three shots ahead of the next competitor. In Stableford events Stig

Anderson, Alan Edwards and Kevin McIlveen scored 23 points each and Tony Reeson (the Paddler) finished with 22. In a four ball Stableford Ian Ross and Kevin Hodge managed 25 points.

Hilltop held a Four Ball Best Ball Stableford Trophy event over two weeks which produced some good results but short of the 50 points achieved in this competition last year. Russell Baker and David Johnston accumulated 47 points while four teams ended on 46. In Stableford events Keith Harvey scored 43 and Geoff Muir 42. Pig of the Litter award for October goes to Colin Boardman for his prodigious effort in playing at least 6 out of 9 holes under his handicap (66.6%). Hey Col, how much of a hammering did your handicap get?

AN EVENTFUL MORNING

A Hilltop Vet (who will remain anonymous) arrived at golf a few Wednesdays ago, having been driven by his wife, feeling in tip top shape and ready to pit his skill against those of his Veteran comrades. As he was about to putt his first ball on the practice green he noticed that he was still wearing his slippers. In a bit of a panic he rang his wife who grabbed his golf shoes and sped back to the course just in time for him to put them on and tee off. A few holes into the game he was walking up a slope, covered in sharp sticks, towards a sheltered spot where he was going to perform a natural function. Unfortunately, he tripped and fell heavily on the sharp sticks; his legs were stripped of skin and flesh in parts and there was considerable blood dripping down both legs. The flies

suddenly took a great interest in him; one of which he accidentally swallowed. His golf partners offered him bandaids but they were too small. So, he rang his wife again (obviously a very patient woman) who agreed to meet him a couple of fairways hence, on the course perimeter, with a first aid kit. With four large patches adorning his lower legs he soldiered on. At a subsequent green he picked up a foot from the hole when he still had a shot up his sleeve. Damn. The rest of the morning was without incident.



UNDER THE RADAR

In 1954 Australian Peter Thomson won, to great acclaim, his first of five British Open Golf Championships. Largely forgotten is that the British Amateur Golf Championship (BAGC) that year was also won by an Australian. His name was Doug Bachli and he was the first Australian to win this event which commenced in 1885. The BAGCF Final was a match play contest played over two rounds and after 31holes Doug trailed the hot favourite William "Big Bill" Campbell of the USA by one stroke. Ratcheting up his concentration Doug played steady golf and won the next three holes in a row while his

opponent fell apart. At the 35th hole Doug was two up with two to play and had a four-foot putt to equal Campbell's par. He sank the putt and won two and one. Only one other Australian (Brydon McPherson in 2011) has won this Championship.



Doug was born in Victoria in 1922 but the family moved to Canberra where he attended high school and started playing golf. The family moved back to Rosebud, Victoria and Doug worked for his father who was a publican and had plenty of opportunity to indulge his passion for golf. He was a member of the Victoria Golf Club and played off scratch in their Pennants team. He served in the Army from 1942 to 1945. After the war he rose up the ranks of amateur golf winning the Australian Amateur Title (AAT) in 1948 and in subsequent years represented Australia many times in international events. He never turned professional and won the

(AAT) again in 1962.

In a tournament at the Royal Sydney Golf Club in 1949 he played the front nine in 29 strokes (six under par) and his putt on the 9th hole teetered on the edge of the hole but didn't fall. This is still a course record. He founded the Golf Society of Australia in 1982 which researches and preserves the history of Australian Golf and in 1987 he was awarded the MBE. In 1998 the putter he used in his BAGC win was stolen, along with other items, from his home. Doug was devastated. However, following some newspaper reports it was returned to him. The putter was placed on the casket at his funeral in 2000.

NOSTALGIA

To acknowledge and celebrate the new gleaming, architecturally designed lavatorial facilities, surrounded by landscaped gardens, now in use at Hilltop and the one to be built at Beachside we give you herewith a dose of nostalgia:-

THE DUNNY OUT THE BACK

They were funny looking buildings, that were once a way of life,

If you couldn't sprint the distance, then you really were in strife.

They were nailed, they were wired, they were mostly falling down,

There was one in every yard, in every house, in every town.

They were given many names, some were even funny,

But to most of us, we knew them as the outhouse or the dunny.

I've seen some of them all gussied up, with painted doors and all,

But it really made no difference, they were just a port of call.

THE OUTBACK DUAL-FLUSH DUNNY



And if by chance that nature called sometime through the night,

You'd always send the dog in first, for there was no flamin' light.

And the dunny seemed to be the place where crawlies liked to hide,

But they never ever showed themselves until you sat inside.

The dunny man came once a week, to these buildings out the back,

And he would leave an extra can, if you left for him a zac.

For those of you who've no idea what I mean by a zac,

Then you're too young to have ever had, a dunny out the back.

With thanks to John D Gardener.

THE ONESIE

When golfing, does your shirt ride up out of your trousers or shorts? Do your smalls shift and twist so that you are forever adjusting them? Well, the answer to these problems is at hand. An enterprising clothier has invented a shirt/smalls combination known as a "Golfer's Onesie". The appended illustration demonstrates the comfort and freedom this garment provides.



The special light body hugging fabric allows full fluidity of body movement. The garment stretches but does not ride up or shift and twist. Sceptical readers may well ask "how

BEACHSIDE VETERANS ANNUAL REPORT 2023

I am Ron Sweany Veterans Committee member and Captain at Beachside.

In giving this report I would like to thank the other members of the Beachside Veterans Match Committee: Peter Geach; Chris Hole; Brian Morrison, and Steve Whiting for their support and assistance over the year with the competition at Beachside.

At Beachside there is not such a problem with carts and wet weather so golf is on unless the course is officially closed. Fortunately, that has not happened this year so we have got in our 40 rounds of golf to date and expect to finish the golfing year with our scheduled 47 games.

The average number of participants was 54, with 69 our biggest turnout, coinciding with Hilltop being closed to Vets. The smallest field was 43 probably due to a rain event we were experiencing on that day.

I know some golfers feel that a 9-hole par 3 course is not real golf. In fact, most Beachside golfers were up in arms about the alterations to the original course and the supposed 'dumbing down' of golf. These changes to the course continue as the club is in the process of converting the 1 remaining par 4 hole into the 9th and final par 3.

Over time we have come to accept the change, and can I say that all Beachside players enjoy their golf as much as any other golfer.

Despite the shortening of the course, it is still only occasionally that one of our members goes round and pars the course, (that may say something about our skill level). However, it is fairly common for at least a few players each

does one put on or take off the garment."? Again, the answer is simple; there is a well concealed but easily accessible zipper. Oh, ye of little faith! Vets interested in trying out the "Onesie" should enquire at the Pro Shop where a number of samples are available for trial. Please advise staff of your height together with your chest, waist and baggage size.

This is the last time that *Here I Lie* will adorn the pages of this Masthead.

I, Sandy, have run out of ideas and am pulling the pin and our esteemed editor, Brian, has also decided to put his cue permanently in the rack. We wish you all happy golfing and good health.



"This is a tough course."

comp to score 20 stableford points or over.

In terms of time commitment and/or distance walked, the 9 holes suits Beachside players. Of our regular players, there are less than 10 in their 60's, but there are about 40 in their 70's, and most of them in their late 70's, about 20 in their 80's and at least 1 90 YO.

Thank you,

Ron Sweany

Captain's Report



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As club captain, this is my first report. Firstly, I would like to express my gratitude to Marty Lochrin for his tireless efforts and commitment to the Mollymook Veterans Golf Club in his capacity as captain. As the leader of our weekly golf competition, Marty has demonstrated fairness and consistency, which I think is an excellent example.

When looking back on 2023, Mollymook Veteran Golfers can say that it was yet another incredibly successful year. A little more than 100 golfers regularly show up on Wednesdays at Hilltop, and there are full teams for each of the roughly twelve "Mid-South Coast Veterans Golf Association" interclub events, as well as interclub events with both the Kiama and Catalina Clubs. Additionally, the club contributes significantly to volunteer support for special golf PROAMs and other tournaments throughout the year. Your support and involvement have made it possible for one of the most prolific veteran golfing clubs in the area to continue to operate and give veteran

golfers the opportunity to continue playing the game we all love.

On Monday, November 20, a group of thirty veteran golfers travelled to Kiama for the second part of their interclub tournament with the Kiama Veterans Club. The two-person ambrose format was used, and the team with the lowest total of the top 10 scores from each club finished as the winner. Ray Dorsett and Wes Stiller stood out on Kiama's short but narrow course, earning the lowest combined score of 57 nett. The others gave it their best go as well, but in the end, the locals prevailed and took back the "shield" from Mollymook. The hosts provided a barbeque lunch at which time the subtleties of the match were discussed and maybe some drinks were had.

As the year draws to a close, please remember that our first game next year is on 31st January so you will need to book three weeks prior on 10th January and likewise for the following games. Also, note that the 2024 Shoalhaven Week of Golf will be held from the 12th -16th February. Entries are now open, and details available on the Mid South Coast Veterans Golf Association (MSCVGA) [web site](#).

I wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year – hit 'em straight and nearly as long as you used to!

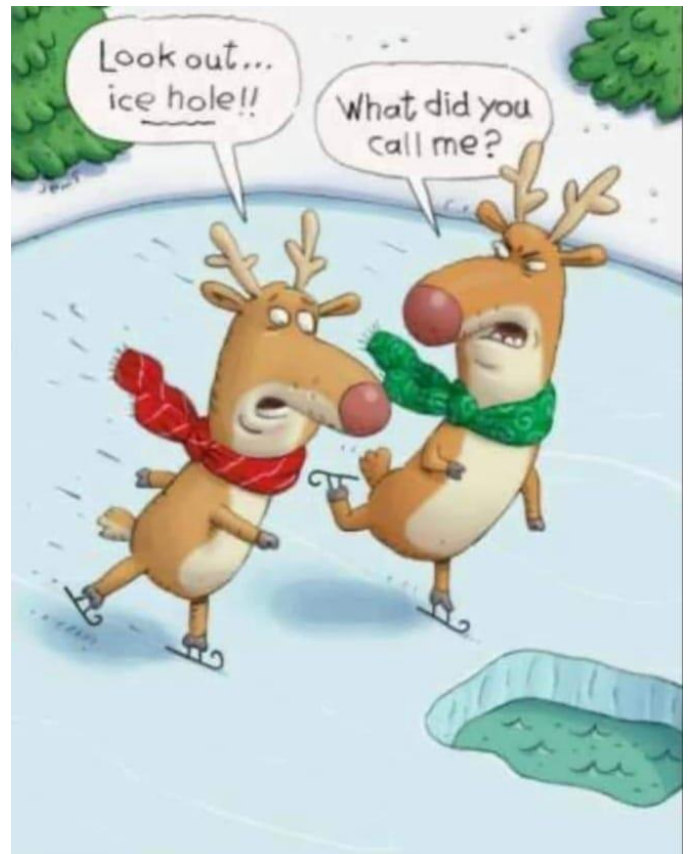
Tim Innes

Veterans Captain

From the Editor

Ken Thorne and I have been producing the newsletter for four years now and I would like to add my thanks to the members for all the positive feedback we have received over those years. We jumped in at the deep end at the start and made it up as we went along. Thankfully we did not make too many mistakes and it is to be hoped that we have provided some news and entertainment to you the members over that time. I will be happy to provide guidance to my successor.

Brian Clayton – editor (retired)



Merry Christmas!

Vets Office Bearers 23/24

President Grant Knight
Captain Tim Innes
Vice Captain Gerrard Taniane
Treasurer Phil McGuire
Secretary Vacant
Beachside Captain Ron Sweaney

