



March 2009 Newsletter

PRESIDENTS UPDATE

Financial Performance:

I would like to present an update of our financial performance for the first quarter of our financial year, 1 October 2008 to 31 December 2008. Overall, our performance has been solid.

The income streams are above expectations. Of note are the Bar Trading and Poker Machine revenues which are significantly above expectations. The key Gross Profit results are also above expectations. With one exception, all other Operating Profits are positive and most well above budget projections. This means cost of goods sold and stock controls have been well managed. All of this is pleasing.

While there are some concerns in the overheads area, expenses in the Golf Course area over budget with course maintenance and machinery R&M over budget. Most of that relates to unexpected cost related to the on course toilets and some expenses created in the previous Financial Year being paid in this Financial Year. Operational Expenses are higher than I would like and the General Manager has already commenced corrective action, particularly in Administration costs.

While we have had a solid start to the Financial Year, I am not as confident about the rest of the year given the economic situation. I have asked the General Manager to monitor performance closely as will I. The Management Committee has been made aware of my views and their role to also monitor those areas they can and to ask questions about our performance if they have concerns.

Operating Profit (excluding depreciation) Year to Date (YTD) is \$360,077 against a forecast of \$289,747 for the period. Bear in mind this operating profit is based on recognition of member fee income when it is received. This means that our YTD operating profit will probably not fluctuate greatly for the remainder of the year.

Our cash flow position YTD is Total Cash Balance (Cash at Bank; Safe; Hoppers & ATM) is \$264,534.65. The cash flow estimate for 31 December 08 was \$318,701. This difference reflects an under-estimation of outstanding creditors from the previous period.

Major Profit Centre

Bar Trading	\$56,129
Catering	\$15,307
Gaming Machines	\$65,953
Bottle Shop	\$(16,405) **

Operating Profit Year to Date

** Note: 100 % of Reception wages are allocated to Bottle Shop.
Bottleshop sales YTD \$37,800

Membership details as at end December 2008 —

Full Playing Members at 31/12/08	901
Social Members / Temp Membership	2040
Life Members	6
Country Members	21
Juniors Members / Students	47
Honorary Members	3
TOTAL	3018
LAST YEAR	1265

Local Golf Rules:

I have been bemused and disappointed by the sometimes rather immature displays around the issue of slow play and groups of more than four playing from time to time. All sorts of strange activities have developed as a result. I am regularly approached by pretty much the same members about the men's Captain and Vice Captain playing in groups of five or more. Also I am advised that the Captain and Vice Captain do not appear on the Saturday timesheets. The Captain and Vice Captain are required to alternately play in the last group in the field to pick up markers and attend to the finishing process. They organize this among themselves. Playing in the last group sometimes means a group of five. They are not the only players who play in fives at the permission of the Starter. There have been both men and ladies groups involved. The Starter advised me on Saturday 7 February that a group of five was to go out and they were aware of the time rule. This group did not include the Captain and Vice Captain. I hope we can move beyond these issues and enjoy golf.

I asked the Club Professional, Captains and Vice Captains to meet to resolve the issues. I also attended this meeting. I had carried out some internet research about slow play and groups of five or more being permitted at a range of golf clubs. Broadly, most clubs have rules about "Speed of Play". Most also have rules about playing group sizes. Some of the "speed of play" rules are very complex and detailed. For example, they specify times for each player to take shots and the time a group should have reached after a certain period of time.

We do not propose to go to this type of detailed approach or a time based set of rules.

The problems which have led to the current situation relate to:

1. The approach we have applied to breaches;
2. The reaction of a small group of members to challenges to their speed of play; and
3. Some members mistakenly mixing the two issues together in some sort of retaliation.

The issues are quite separate. There are players in groups of four who do not keep up with the group in front. Further, there are groups of five which are able to and do keep to the speed of play. Our club has always had, (and will continue to have) a local rule which gives to the "Starter" (which is the Professional or his staff), the discretion to allow groups larger than four to play. This is to be done only in the rarest of circumstances in the middle of the field. It should only occur when there are fields where many booked in players have pulled out (say due to the weather conditions) and there are groups of three and two and it is not possible to group into fours. The speed of play rule still applies to these groups.

There are groups at the end of a field who for reasons of fun, enjoyment and practicality, (and that is what most of us come to golf for), want to play in groups of five. This can be facilitated at the discretion of the Starter provided that the speed of play rule is paramount and adhered to.

With respect to our approach to Speed of Play rules, there is no point having a rule unless we intend to expect players to adhere to it. There are two main ways slow play is reported. By letter from a player behind a slow group or a group is noticed by a Captain or Vice Captain. In the future I would request that Captains and Vice Captains noting groups which are consistently falling behind the group in front should approach the players quietly and ask them to speed up play and make a note of the incident including the time. After the round they could ask if there was any reason for the slow play or if there is anything they can do to help. Aggressively defensive responses by players will not be tolerated. Records will be kept. In the circumstances

where the rule is continually breached by a single player, a written warning will be issued. Continued breaches of the Speed of Play following warnings may eventually result in suspension of the player.

Treasurer:

As you are aware, we have not had a Treasurer since the election in November. I have been trying to fulfill the role in addition to my duties as President. Fortunately, John Farham has stepped up to the plate. John has a background in accounting and I am sure he will perform the job diligently. I am grateful for his offer and look forward to working positively with John for the rest of the year. Thank you John.

Junior Golf:

I had the pleasure of playing golf with our Junior golfers in the Father / Mother / Son / Daughter golf day. I would like to pay tribute to Brian Carrigan and his helpers for the organization of the day and the Junior Golf Program generally. It was a fun day and the young players are a credit to the Club. They are very pleasant to talk to on the way around and follow the etiquette required. Their golf skills just blow me away. Congratulations to all involved.

Future Golf Course Improvement Program:

At a meeting of the Forward Planning Committee on 9 February 2009, there was discussion of the issues around the 11th green. Discussion centred around the need to rebuild our greens. This matter has apparently been discussed by previous Management Committees over the last twenty or so years. Action has not followed largely due to inadequate funding being available. That remains the case today. The question arises as to whether we continue to ignore the situation or take some action. Because of the Constitutional constraints surrounding annual fees, I would not be confident that members would agree to an increase sufficient to enable one or two greens per year to be addressed as part of a program. Below are some current fees for clubs around our region.

Golf Club	Full Annual Playing Fee
Bribie Island	\$650
Gympie	\$699
Horton Park	\$728
Mount Coolool	\$705
Nambour	\$580

Given that situation, the Management Committee will be forced to consider options such as an increase of the order of \$2.00 on Green Fees to raise these funds. This would raise around \$100,000 which would be quarantined for the purpose of green, bunker or fairway reconstruction (as opposed to maintenance).

Charity Day for Flood and Bushfire Victims:

The Charity Golf Day held on 22 February to raise funds for the victims of the Queensland floods and the terrible bushfires in Victoria was a great success. The funds will be handed to the Australian Red Cross for distribution on Monday 23 February.

I would like to thank all of our sponsors for their generosity, businesses who entered teams and non-members and members who participated. In particular I would like to pay a tribute to Steve Crawford and his staff and volunteers and to our Greens Superintendent and his staff for the extra efforts they made to ensure the day was successful.

Best wishes to all and good golfing.

Geoff Skerritt - President

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Welcome to our first edition for 2009.

Firstly I would like to thank our Members and Visitors who supported the charity golf day we held recently. Proceeds from the day were split between the North Queensland flood and the Victorian fire appeals. Thank you also to the local retailers who donated food and drinks that were sold on the day and also to all of the trophy donors. It was an extremely successful day raising \$5,735.

CATERING

We have received feedback from our playing Members that due to the numbers of patrons visiting the Club throughout the day, they have been finding it hard to access food in a timely manner during their round. To try and alleviate this problem, the Club has made alternate arrangements and sandwiches, pies, sausage rolls, chocolates and soft drinks will now be available for purchase from the Pro Shop. Hopefully this should ease the pressure and ensure players are able to grab a snack during their round without delay.

The Club has also purchased a larger display cabinet which will allow for a greater variety of cakes, muffins, sandwiches, wraps and lunch items. Our head chef Mick, has created new menus which will be available from mid March. The Club will also introduce more specialty days and nights which will ensure a good variety while keeping the meals at a reasonable cost.

Monday: Double Meal Deal \$30.00 for two Main Meals.

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Wednesday: Beef up Wed Steaks for only \$10.00

Thursday: Family Thursday "No Main Meal" over \$10.00

Friday: Al-acarte Night

Saturday: Al-acarte Night

Sunday: Roast Night is Back - Two courses for \$11.95

Our next Gourmet Club evening will be held on Saturday 16th May 2009 with a four course meal and a selection of Tyrell's wines. We have taken on board feedback received from our inaugural dinner and are confident that the second dinner will be a great success. Numbers will be limited and tickets can be purchased at Reception for \$65. Please see Reception staff if you are interested in joining the Gourmet Club.

COMMUNICATION

The Club is always looking at different options to improve communication between the Committee and Members. Our latest quest is pod-broadcasting through emails. If you have an email address and have not yet provided it, please advise reception staff who will update the email list and enable you to receive up to date information regarding your Club.

PROMOTIONS

As well as the Membership draws which are held Tuesday, Friday and Sunday, the Club now has a couple of new promotions with great prizes for Members to win.

If you're an outdoor lover, camping equipment can be won simply by spending \$10 or more in the bottleshop or the bar. Full details are available at Reception and terms and conditions do apply.

For the cruise lovers, wouldn't 7 days cruising the Whitsundays be wonderful. To gain a ticket in this promotion, have your membership card inserted into your gaming machine and every win of \$20 or more will have a ticket automatically printed and dropped into the barrel. This promotion will be drawn on Saturday 27th June 2009 and the winner must be present at the draw to claim their prize. Full details are available at Reception and terms and conditions do apply.

The Your Choice Loyalty Program has been up and running for a few months now. Remember to hand over your Membership card when making purchases from the bottleshop, bar or restaurant or have your card inserted when playing the gaming machines. Points can be used for purchases at the bottleshop, bar or restaurant or even redeemed for cash by obtaining a ticket from the kiosk and exchanging for cash at the bar.

A reminder that the Your Choice Loyalty Program is different to the golfers ledger where golf prizes are credited. Golf prize credits cannot be exchanged for cash and may only be used to make purchases from the pro shop, bottleshop, bar or restaurant. They can also be used to purchase a voucher that can be spent at various retailers in Hervey

Bay. Full details of both the Your Choice Loyalty Program and the golf prize system are available from Reception.

The NRL footy tipping competition “kicks off” on the 13th March 2009 for all the armchair experts. For an entry fee of \$25 you could win one of the following prizes:

- 1st - \$500 credit to Member Card
- 2nd - \$300 credit to Member Card
- 3rd - \$200 credit to Member Card
- 4th - \$100 credit to Member Card

Can the 2008 winner, Gerry Taylor retain his title or is there another lucky tipster ready to take over as the Tipping Champion. Please see me or Reception staff for more information.

SPONSORSHIP

I would like to thank everyone that has confirmed their sponsorship for 2009. Sponsor's shirts are available for collection from the office. 2009 sponsorship packages are still available as well as advertising on the first tee. Please see me if you are interested in either of these two options.

Finally on a sad note, our Office Administrator Carolyn Crawford has decided to leave us to pursue other employment opportunities. I thank Carolyn for her input and hard work over the past 2 years in a time of great progress for the Club. The office is still in capable hands with Jenny Riley taking over Carolyn's role.

I would like to thank Members for their feedback over the past few months and we will consider all comments and make the necessary changes or improvements with the aim to ensure Member satisfaction.

Steve Crawford
General Manager

SECRETARY'S JOTTINGS

Welcome to the 2009 year. The Program Book is now available for our members.

Please note that the following information was omitted from the Book

Treasurer - Mr John Farham Ph: 4124 0518
Men's Handicap Manager - Mr Bob Caldwell
Ph: 4124 3122
Ladies Handicap Manager - Mrs Isabel Tapp
Ph: 4124 3247

FOR SALE ITEMS:-

WANTED TO BUY:

· Cart Trailer — Please Phone 4128 3307

FOR SALE:

· Putter — Pro Shark Fin SF-01 Good condition. \$50 or offer Phone Eric 4124 5752

· Pilgrim “Roo” Buggy — Telescopic handle, 3rd wheel, pocket seat, folds easily, good condition. New \$170 sell \$80 Phone Stewart Lewis 4124 2119

· Nickett 3 DX Square Driver Brand new 12deg loft, Proforce V2 UST Regular shaft \$100 Phone George 4125 4862

· Putter — White Hot 2Ball Odyssey centre shafted \$100 Phone Steve 0407 136 837

· Laser Lite folding electric golf buggy with charger & battery \$210 Phone Wendy 4128 2725

A Special General Meeting is being held shortly. There are three items to be addressed.

1. The review of the Forward Planning Report as requested by the members at the AGM

2. The exact changes necessary to the Constitution for the inclusion of “Overseas Membership”

3. A change to the Constitution regarding “When Membership ends”

(3) The management committee may terminate a member's membership if the member —

“(c) has membership fees in arrears for at least 2 months;”

TO BE REPLACED BY

“(c) has membership fees in arrears for at least 1 month;”

This is to allow management to remove members from the register after 1 month of becoming unfinancial. This is normal business practice. It is usual to be given one (1) month to pay an account.

Cart sheds:

All our cart sheds recently vacated have now been allocated. The waiting list is available at the office. Please enquire at reception if you wish to be included on this. Members changing to Social Membership are not eligible to retain a shed.

Shirley Tarte
Secretary

GREENS REPORT

On course

I would like to open by saying that it has been very gratifying to hear the positive comments about the course presentation from both members and visitors over the past months. These comments have been received by the Pro Shop, Ground staff and Clubhouse staff.

Since the last newsletter we purchased two new supply pumps and repaired and serviced our standby third pump. However, in early January and February we had further pump failures due to faulty parts, both pumps were recalled by the manufacturer, this was a loss of around four weeks, with only one pump available, during these periods we were only able to give 100% supply to the greens and manual supply to other areas for short periods, we were very fortunate that we received sufficient rain and cooler weather during the down times. At time of writing faulty pumps are being repaired or replaced by the manufacturer.

At the Match/Greens committee and Management committee meetings, approval was given to commence work on the 17th front R/hand bunker, this bunker has become a maintenance nightmare with tree roots interfering with netting, drainage and bunker rake machine. The bunker design will be changed to suit grass; the bunker will be similar to the bunker on the 16th.

The Forward Planning Committee met on the 9th February to prepare a plan of course requirements needed over the next ten years, the plan will then be put forward to management committee for approval and will be submitted to a General Meeting for members approval.

Thank you to all club members for their help in maintaining the tees and fairways with divot sand over the past months, the green staff have noticed a big improvement to the condition of the course fairways when it comes to mowing.

Further help is still required in filling in divots on the par three tees.

New bunker sand has arrived and will be added to bunkers as required, this sand has a special mix of course sand to help minimise compaction from the greenside sprinkler systems (The mix has been tested successfully by the professional staff).

Also new divot sand has been delivered; this sand has a very good PH reading and will assist in quicker regrowth to fairways and surrounds.

Our thanks to Byrne Bros for their assistance in this exercise.

Funding

Our application for The Queensland Government Sports and Recreation Minor Funding was approved late October and funds became available in mid January 09. We are now in the process of ordering the new irrigation equipment along with sand, grass and soil, some of the work has already commence however the bulk of the work will be started after greens renovations in March and be completed by September 09. The project should not affect play as the bulk of the work is off the side of the fairways.

At time of writing we have applied for further funding from the Fraser Coast Regional Council with regards to assistance in funding some minor works programs around the course.

Sand buckets (A Cost Saving Exercise to the club and members)

If you see sand buckets lying around the club house, cart sheds, course, and the car park please assist by picking up and placing them in the appropriate containers, **its not that difficult.**

Parking

We are still getting members parking with their cart trailers in the main car park, **please park down on the 19th fairway**, we are trying to reduce the number of member's vehicles parking on the verge and on the street.

For those members who fear that their vehicles are at risk from members practicing during the day, the 19th fairway tees will be closed and the green will only be available to members for practicing their short game.

Trees

We will be starting a program this month of planting trees to the left hand side of the 8th fairway around the 150m marker area, as we believe we have at least four large trees dying off including the large black gum. At time of writing we are seeking professional advice as to what can be done to save the trees in question.

Fred Lynam — Vice President Greens

FROM THE CAPTAIN'S CORNER

With the warm weather behind us, I hope anyway that we can get down to playing golf in a pleasant and comfortable climate. I must thank the greens staff for their excellent efforts of presenting the course; with the increase in players, more competitions, Wednesdays attracting more men in the field, and the trying times in cutting down costs.

I know both Fred and Geoff have spoken about why we have to slice the greens — like tram lines every month, but in doing this the grass on the greens don't mat, which is like having a cushion effect between the grass and the base, and will cause bounce, hence no stopping of the ball. Most clubs do this as regularly as we do.

The Pennant season has just started, and I would like to thank all those players that will be representing the club and I trust that you all represent our Club in the best possible way. Special thanks to the Managers of each team, Mark Collins, Tony Lambour, Dave Shelley, Peter Cross, Jim Polzin, Matt Wisnieski and Brian Carrigan for making the time and effort.

Suggestion: All players should be ringing their Managers to see where or when the game is on, not the Managers ringing the players if there are any problems etc.

I attended the Wide Bay District Golf Assoc AGM and it was pleasing to see the amount of work that Golf Queensland is putting in to promote golf in all areas. Please check out the Golf Queensland's web site. www.golfqueensland.org.au : for all news and upcoming events. Part of our affiliation fees goes into making the site so please use it.

For a change I will not be mentioning slow play, but please read Ruth's report because she has put a lot of time into trying to beat this problem.

RULES:

I was asked by one of my playing partners the other week about sand that had come out of a bunker and is lying in the grass between the bunker and the green; his question was, can he move or brush away the sand between his ball and the hole? The answer is **NO**.

Loose impediments are natural objects, including stones, leaves, twigs etc provided they are not fixed or growing, or adhering to the ball.

Now here is why the answer is **NO**. Sand and loose soil are **loose impediments on the putting green but not elsewhere**. So on the green anything can be moved, but on the fringe, only loose impediments which isn't sand.

Check “ **Definitions**” in your Rule Book.

Tips on how to enjoy good golfing:

I keep stating this over and over, if your stance is not aligned to the target correctly, you will be in the trees more often than not. How I check my stance — I walk behind the ball and pick out a spot 6 inches in front, put the club behind the ball in line with the spot you see, then let the club sit properly on the ground, take your normal grip and stance, and hit the ball over the spot 6 inches in front. Try it and see for yourself.

Good golfing and see you around the Club,

Brian Whitcombe — Club Captain

LADY CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Greetings and welcome to all the ladies. I am hoping this year will be a good one and with Carol Parsons as my Vice Captain I will have her experience and guidance for future events. I am also very thankful to those ladies who, should the need arise, have offered to help and support me during the year.

With Carol, I have also organised an “informal” ladies match committee so we will be more able to keep in touch with those ladies who play early on Wednesday competition days. I fully intend to try to play once a month with the “early morning” ladies and in fact will endeavour to play with as many ladies as possible during the year.

Besides myself and Carol, the “informal” ladies match committee consists of Sandra Kerley, Alicia Gail Morris, Penny Rowell, Diane Mason, Isabel Tapp and Brenda Stead. If any ladies have any queries whether about golf or anything else, please contact any member of this informal committee. They will only be too pleased to try and answer your query or concern.

The Captain of the mid week- pennants team is Carol Parsons with Brenda Stead as her Vice Captain. Both Carol and Brenda will try to ensure that we have the appropriate players for each match. We are actively encouraging and looking for more players to join our pennants team, so please consider signing up. Playing pennants is a good learning experience and not nearly as onerous as you would expect.

Ladies Opening Day Wednesday 11th February:

There were 72 ladies who played and we were very lucky we didn't get wet. Jan Isbel and Corinne Young were the trophy donors for the day. There were a lot of prizes and we thank them for their generosity.

A reminder to the ladies who donate a trophy — you have a “free” game on your trophy day. Also to the trophy winners, please remember to write a thank you note.

Wednesday 4th March will be our first Monthly Medal for the year. It will also be the start of the points, putts, ecclectics and birdie competitions. Forms for the Brooch, Bowl, Ecclectic and Veterans Competitions are available from Reception. Please show your intention to participate before the relevant competitions commence to make it easier for our Handicap Manager, Isabel.

UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE:

March

Wednesday 4	Monthly Medal, Round 1 WGQ Brooch
Sunday 15	Burrum Ladies Open (Flyer on Notice Board)
Wednesday 18	Round 1 — Keith Miles Classic
Wednesday 25	Round 2 — Keith Miles Classic
Sunday 29	Bargara Ladies Open (Flyer on Notice Board)

APRIL

Wednesday 8	Monthly Medal
Wednesday 14	1 st mid-week pennants match vs Craignish @ Craignish
Wednesday 15	Single Stableford Shotgun start 10am
Sunday 19	Gin Gin Ladies Open
Wednesday 22	Monthly Medal, Round 2 WGQ Brooch
Sunday 26	Ladies Zone Foursomes @ Maryborough

LADIES PLEASE READ THE NOTICE BOARDS IN THE LADIES LOCKER ROOM.

I will post information there as and when required, so it is necessary that once you have completed your round of golf, you pause for a couple of minutes to read these boards on your way into the main clubhouse.

For your information at present we have posted the definition of several competitions ie 4BBB Stableford, Ambrose, Foursomes, Canadian Foursomes, American Foursomes and Chapman Foursomes, which we hope will explain not only how these competitions are played but also how to score them.

Let me offer some tips on how to avoid slow play. The biggest contributors to slow play are players who are not ready to hit when they should. If, for whatever reason, the person who is furthest from the hole is not ready, and providing it is safe to do so, take the initiative and hit your shot.

Remember: There is no penalty for playing out of turn.

Following are some suggestions on how to play “Ready Golf” which I recommend to all players (both men and ladies) to help speed up play:

- Reduce the number of practice swings
- Incorporate as many practice swings as possible into your routine while waiting
- Decide on your shot and make your club selection while others are having their shot
- Take your cart or clubs with you; avoid having to walk back to get them
- Putt without delay
- Read your putt whilst others are putting
- If you have finished putting and the rest of your group still have to putt, and the group in front of you is out of range, move to the next tee and play your shot
- In the event that there is an opening of at least one hole in front of you, you must, if the group behind you is waiting, let that group through at the earliest opportunity
- Encourage slow playing partners to speed up
- Forget about “who’s honour it is on the tee” If you are ready, tee off — except in match play
- Always play a provisional ball if there is any doubt about finding your original ball
- Mark the card whilst others are teeing off
- When playing a Stableford competition, pick your ball up when you can no longer score on a hole
- Finally, if you hit a bad shot, don’t simply stand there looking shocked, just get on with it!

Following these basic guidelines, you will enhance the enjoyment of the players on the course.

Lastly, I wish you all an enjoyable golfing year.

Ruth Bartolozzi — Lady Captain

JUNIOR NEWS

At our last Annual Junior Carnival, our Juniors did very well, Arielle Chard won the girls Best Gross, Jacob Cullen was runner-up in the boys Division 1 Section, whilst Michael Dwyer Jnr., had the Best Nett. Matt Kuhn won the Best Nett in Division 2. Michael Lewis won the Club Boys Best Gross for 18 holes whilst Wade Baddeley was runner-up. Keiran Braun took out the Runner-up Nett for the same section.

The current Mixed Foursomes Champions are Renton Ritchie and Arielle Chard. It is the third time in as many years that they have

VETERAN'S REPORT

won. Congratulations to you both. Arielle also won the girls section of the Hervey Bay Annual Junior Golf Carnival at the beginning of November, shooting 80 to win by one shot. This was her second successive win in the event, an excellent achievement. Well done Arielle.

During the school holidays the first major event under the VDM Construction, Bellerio sponsorship for Junior golf, was run - a 3 day Coaching Clinic. It brought 43 juniors to us, of which only 13 were our own. Gerry and Jordan took them through the basics of the game and were very impressed at some of the natural talent they saw with ages ranging from 6—16 years. We're hopeful we can now attract this new group of potential juniors, to our coaching programme.

Should you want information on this programme, it is available at Reception or the Pro Shop. It shows the various stages a youngster can pass through, until finally gaining a Golf Link handicap.

The Junior Pennant season is about to get under way and we are quietly confident of our chances to clinch the Flag again. Because most Clubs in the District don't have the depth of juniors to include a team in the Pennant Competition, it's a short season of only three interclub matches when the top 2 teams on points are set to play the Final. The third match is at home on Sunday 15th March, so if you're not doing anything, come and walk around with them, they'd really appreciate your support - and you never know, you might learn something.

The Sunday morning competitions were launched on Sunday, 1st February, with the first Parent/Child day we have ever run. The response was very encouraging with 24 pairs playing. The winners for the day were Tyson Olive, one of our junior members, partnered by his Mother, Leanne, whilst the best Father/Son pairing went to Josh Bunt and his Dad, Jamie, two newcomers to us. The single event went to Josh Anderson. All the competitors were treated to an after golf sausage sizzle, courtesy of our Sponsors, VDM Construction, Bellerio and all in all it was a highly successful start to the year.

Our apologies to those members who were held up by the end of the field.

I'm happy to announce that Peter Cherrett has come on board to assist me with the Junior Programme for the year, and I want to extend a warm welcome to him. The year ahead of us is much more involved with new things for the juniors and with Pete's background in Junior Golf in Victoria and overseas, he will be a great help in not only administering the program, but working with the juniors on their goals.

Brian Carrigan — Junior Coordinator

We are off to a flying start in 2009 with our Vets golf commenced in earnest on Monday 2nd February.

We look forward to an enjoyable year of golf, playing is what counts, winning is just a by product of good enjoyable golfing so keep on persevering!

The Xmas event was a total success, read nearly total! You will never please everyone. Many thanks to the Committee for their sterling effort, Ian Clarke is now in demand for his trivia knowledge and expertise. Special thanks must go to Theresa, for the excellent job in feeding 138 people in record time, food was left over so next year we must remember to call for seconds while they last!

A warm welcome to our new Club President Mr. Geoff Skerritt, and his committee members.

Personally I look forward to a rewarding year of cooperation and involvement for Veteran Golfers in Club activities; after all it is our Club.

For continued enjoyment of our golf it is in our best interest to *support* and *encourage* Club activities as much as we possibly can. As Vets we have the experience behind us to offer guidance and constructive nurturing of Club development.

As the year unfolds we will organize at least one bus trip.

Tin Can Bay wish to make a return visit around mid to end of October. We are also planning for a two day event on 22/23rd September; you will be given plenty of notice.

Hope you all thoroughly enjoyed the change of menu selected for our BBQ shot-gun start in February. A thoroughly enjoyable day, congratulations to the winners and remember to come back next week, it just might be your turn to win.

Thank you
John Fisher - President.