



Thursday Thoughts

MANGAWHAI GOLF CLUB

Clock on for Summer Twilight

Now that your body clocks are keeping time with the rising and setting of our ever-present sun (you wish!) it's an opportune moment to remind you all that Summer Twilight starts tomorrow. And that comes with all the bells and baubles that make it such a winning opportunity for you to be part of!

Let's start with the basics: **Summer Twilight** gives you tee-off options between midday and 4.30pm (so we can have all cards in by 6.30pm and prizegiving around 7.00pm); it's open to all members and affiliated visitors; we have some very generous monthly sponsors right through the season; we're going to use Tee #1 from midday to around 3.40pm, then both #1 and #10 from 3.30 till 4.30pm.



And now, the not-so-basic rewards: over and above the winning opportunities that good scores create, we'll be holding a weekly **Members' Draw that starts this week with !!\$500!! in the pot;** and each time you play you'll be getting yourself into the draw to win a **golfing trip for two to Australia worth \$3,000,** very generously donated by **Bill and Jono Mabey of Experience Golf.**

Every 5 times you play Summer Twilight you'll earn one entry in the draw that will be held at the end of Daylight Saving in early April 2017.

Sort out your tee bookings today – online or call the Golf Shop and make sure you're in with a chance to win each week.



While we're on the subject of winning big, we are happy to announce that the winnings of Ray McIntyre have now been distributed to the satisfaction of all. It seems that, in a frenzy of anticipation prior to the big draw last Friday evening, Ray was arranging 50:50 shares with an ever-increasing (with every trip to the bar) number of people, to the final extent of having some 5 people promised a 50% share if he won. Which would, we calculate, have made him liable for a total payout of \$2,500 – not a great return from a winning total of \$1,000. Fortunately, in the cold light of reality the next day, a suitable compromise was reached, much to Ray's mental and financial relief. So he remains on Mangawhai's Most Eligible Male list ... but at a slightly lower level.

Who did what this week ...

Monday Men mustered 40 hopefuls and were led home by John Barber's 42 points. Straggling along behind the legendary Ali Baba were Wayne Watts (41), Rex Watson, Colin Sterling (both 40), Warren Partington and Martin Arrowsmith (39), then a fairly motley mob comprising Grant McDermott, John Saunders, Steve Lee, Pete Southee, Des Chitty and Ron Schmidt all on 38. Despite the good numbers giving it a try, no-one managed a Two – must be the greens!

Tuesday Women played their first round of Strokeplay which, when combined with last Saturday's women, shows Belinda May leading the Silver division with a nett 87, followed by Sue Cox with 95. Bronze I sees Diane Taylor and Sheila Gough leading with 94s; Bronze II has Diane Dunlop in the lead with 96, then Jan Grover with 99; Bronze III is led by Bev Jaques (113) ahead of Kathy James and Margaret Brookes on 117. (The Saturday players had the worst of the weather – despite our willingness to be blamed for most things, that was not really our fault.)

The concurrent Nett Haggles were won by Judy Wilkinson with 71, on countback from Jan Grover and Patricia Jones. Diane Moir had 72, then came Marion Bilton on 73 followed by Ann Bolton and Nancy Teale on 74. Twos were scored by Andrea Gardner, Judy Wilkinson and Sue Cox, all on the 13th.

Our **9-Hole Women** were also out in force, playing Strokeplay and a Nett Haggles. Honours were claimed by Cherrill Irving with a nett 32, ahead of Christine Lee (36), Coral Harman (37), Diane Bridge (37) and Linda Foster and Debbie Young on 39, then Ivy McKay on 40.

The **Wednesday Morning Mixed** group bore witness to a spectacular (*politest word we can think of*) 49 stableford points returned by Mark Briggs. Chas Routen, taking time away from his fantastic fishing forays, chased hard but fell somewhat short with just 44. Then there was a large gap back to Jeff Field, Warren Partington and Graham Miller on 39, John Wallwork (38), then Peter Mundell and Murray Glen on 37. Jeff Field had a Two on the 6th, as did John Dickie on the 13th. Lesley Tolhopf topped the Women's division with 38 points, comfortably clear of Barb Chitty (35), Sheila Gough and Rae McKinley (both 34) and Jenni Goodin (32). No Twos.

The **Wednesday Mavericks** attracted 36 players onto the Blue Tees, manfully played as thunder rolled and raindrops kept falling on their heads ... and arms ... and legs ... and clubs ... and every hidden crevice. Best Nett in Division One was scored by Duncan Chisholm (69) while Stableford leaders were Hira Wynyard (38), Puke Taylor (37), Jeff Smith, Iain Butler and Tony Vale (36) then Nick Launder and Dave Foster (33). Division Two Best Nett was won by Tony Akroyd's remarkably hazard-free 68, while best Stableford scores were those of Colin Carley (37), Cliff McPherson (36), Barry Brennan and Ole Iversen (both 35), then Wak Orr and Murray Wright with 34. Ross Hattaway had the only Two, on the 17th. Highlight of the day, for most, was the non-appearance of the Butler name on the prize list. However, Iain quickly compensated for this by winning the Lucky Draw.

We had reports about our Women's recent jaunt to Te Awamutu, spiced with tales of wheelbarrow frivolity. Now we've had some of our Men venturing far afield (to Wellsford) last weekend to launch an irresistible attack on the prize table in that club's Par 3 tournament. Seen enjoying the spoils of victory are our jubilant group, surrounded and consumed by their winnings.

Scotty looks slightly apprehensive as he contemplates his upcoming knee surgery (taking place as we write, we believe) while the balding, monkish gentleman in the centre is suitably jubilant.

Naturally, there's a Butler in the picture.

It's good to see our members getting out and about, taking the unbeatable Mangawhai spirit out into the wider golfing community (even if their prizewinning abilities are not so appreciated by other participants).



A Rare Rental Opportunity

This may well appeal to our annual Godwit migration – which could well be taking wing very soon. Similarly, for someone moving into the Mangawhai area and looking to rent in the mid to long term, this is a property well worth considering. (*Please note, were not a rental agency but we believe this particular property is well worth bringing to your attention.*) It is owned by one of our members and is available fully furnished. It comprises 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms (including Master ensuite), 2 double garages and separate boat deck, and a huge deck provides stunning 270° views across the estuary to the Heads and along to Te Arai. Too much to describe in this short newsletter, so check out the photos and, if interested, contact the owner's representative on 021 752693.



Things that are about to happen

- **Tomorrow's Summer Twilight is sponsored by Bayleys of Mangawhai.** As mentioned before, this is start of the Summer Twilight season and has all sorts of good reasons to bring you onto the course and into the clubhouse afterwards.
- **Saturday** sees Round 2 of **Men's and Women's Strokeplay Champs**. Men, please note that you need to make your own bookings for this round – only the final round on Saturday 8 October will be seeded. We're going to go out on a limb here and promise you much better weather this Saturday – which is not really promising you a lot. Anyway, don't be too discouraged by your last weekend scores, keep playing and who knows what miracles may occur as you rediscover your A game.
- **Signature Homes Canadian Foursomes** will be here on **Sunday 9 October**. This is a very popular Mixed Pairs event (also a Men's Pairs division) and has a new entry fee of only \$30 per team, Members and Visitors alike. Signature Homes' **Gavin Hunt** very generously sponsors this event and ensures there are very good cash prizes to be won. This event is open to all categories of membership, as long as you have a NZ Golf handicap, so come along along and enjoy a great day of golf. Spread the word, bring your mates from other clubs – they'll love it! Enter in the Golf Shop.
- **Air Vanuatu** are back again to sponsor our Labour Weekend **Mixed Open on Sunday 23 October**. This year we will most likely have a shotgun start at around 8.00am and another at 1.00pm – final details will be sent to you all soon. A booking sheet is now open in the Golf Shop so get your names down soon to be sure you get a place in the field.



It was sad to mark the passing of the iconic Arnold Palmer this past week.

Without doubt, he was the man who brought professional golf to the masses via his unique approach to the game and his rare ability to win against all odds. While his swing may well have been the inspiration for some of our more rustic members, he introduced a new approach to the game through his belief that the status quo sometimes needs a good rark-up now and then.

With so many of today's top golfers seemingly cloned from the same personality-devoid mould (*or mold, for our American cousins*), Arnie's distinctive swing and willing engagement with the fans will be sadly missed by all followers of the game.