



## HAPPY NEW EAR

We read of a man in Australia having his ear ripped off by a kangaroo. (*Casual racists among you may have suitable comments to make in the ballpark of "he doesn't really need two because Australians only listen when they're talking about themselves" but we would never condone that sort of remark.*) Anyway, Happy New Ear to him.

Fortunately, in our relatively predator-free piece of paradise that sort of wildlife confrontation is most unlikely (although an agitated Grant Salmon is said to be a fish not to be tangled with). So, a fulsome Happy New Year to all, with the prospect of endless birdies and a plethora of holed putts awaiting you as 2017 unfolds. We've had a positive start to the year with greenfee revenue looking strong and our members returning to the course in large numbers. Membership is growing steadily, the bar is being leant on with increasing frequency and a general air of relaxation and happiness abounds.

You will have all received your 2017 Programme books, prepared in the fervent belief that it is all correct – but also in the knowledge that change will happen. The most current source of knowledge is always our club website, so keep an eye on that as the year goes on. Notably, for our Men members is the way this year's Strokeplay Champs is structured, while the Women's calendar features the ongoing integration of the 9-holers into mainstream golf. Please be aware of what's coming up and get your bookings/entries in early.

## FOOD & WINE DAY SERVES IT UP IN STYLE

This annual start to our our new year of golf, sponsored by New World Warkworth, was a typical raging success. Thanks to Steve and his dedicated team of volunteers who erected marquees, prepared food, manned the food stations, chilled the drinks – and then went out and cleaned up afterwards. A whole heap of organising and hard work go into staging this event and we're sure this much appreciated by the around 170 golfers who took part. Sponsor Jeremy Ross presented the prizes, with the clubhouse full of happy players and any remnants of food and free drinks were quickly consumed. Those of you who receive (and read) our irregular emails will have seen the results so we won't bore you with those details.

## ANOTHER FROM "OUR MEMBERS ON TOUR" FILES

Well-travelled gourmand and roué Jonny Garrod was recently dining alone in a fancy restaurant in Manila after a long, hard day of talent-scouting for his social dating website. There is a gorgeous redhead sitting at the next table. Johnny has been checking her out since he sat down, but lacks the nerve to talk with her. Suddenly she sneezes, and her glass eye comes flying out of its socket toward him. He reflexively reaches out, grabs it out of the air, and hands it back.

'Oh my, I am so sorry,' the woman says as she pops her eye back in place. 'Let me buy your dinner to make it up to you.'

They enjoy a wonderful dinner together, and afterwards they go to the theatre followed by drinks. They talk, they laugh, she shares her deepest dreams and he shares his, even the dark ones. She listens. After paying for everything, she asks him if he would like to come to her place for a nightcap and stay for breakfast. They have a wonderful, wonderful time.

The next morning, she cooks a gourmet breakfast with all the trimmings. Johnny is amazed. Everything had been SO incredible! 'You know,' he says, 'you are the perfect woman. Are you this nice to every guy you meet?'

'No,' she replies. . .

...'You just happened to catch my eye.'

## COMING UP

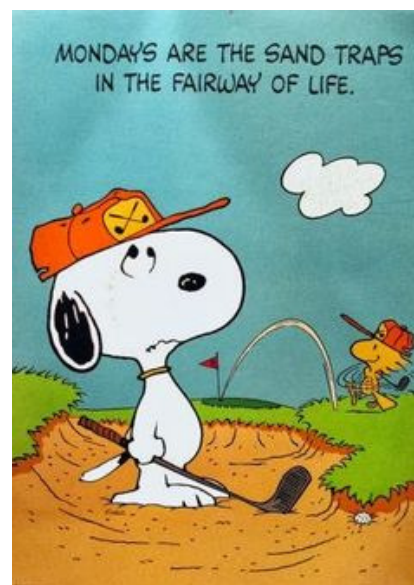
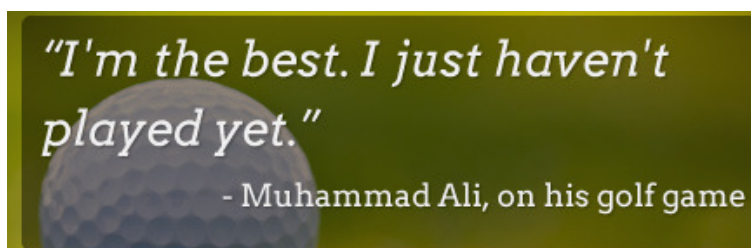
This week sees the return of our regular groups – **Monday Men, Tuesday Summer Golf for Women, Wednesday Vets and Mavericks.** **Twilight** made a low-key return last Friday and gets into full swing this week. There are Haggles in place for this **Saturday** for both **Men and Women.**

The ever-popular **TimberWorld Mixed Open** is on *Sunday 29 January.* Entry sheet for AM & PM shotguns is in the Golf Shop.

**Men's Pennant** teams, 18 and 36 hole, are getting sorted and our *Championship* team makes its debut in the North Harbour competition very early in February.

**Club Opening Day** is scheduled for Saturday 4 February – more details next week.

The **Women's 2-Day Tournament (18 & 19 February)** is attracting good entries. Details and entry form are on our website.





# Mixed Open

## Sunday 29 January

(Morning & Afternoon Shotgun Starts)

**Men in Two Divisions : Women in One Division**

Gross (Women & Men's Div. 1 only), Stableford & Nett

Mangawhai Members **\$30** Visitors **\$45**  
(twos included)



Open only to NZ affiliated golfers : MAXIMUM HANDICAP INDEX: MEN 36.4; WOMEN 40.4

Bookings (with payment) in the Golf Shop

Ph 09 431 4807 email: [golfshop@mangawhaigolf.co.nz](mailto:golfshop@mangawhaigolf.co.nz)  
[www.mangawhaigolf.co.nz](http://www.mangawhaigolf.co.nz)

2017 TWO DAY  
*Ladies Open*  
Northland's Most Popular Ladies Golfing Event

Open to NZ-affiliated Golfers  
Maximum Course Handicap 36

**ENTRY \$50**  
(includes Twos)  
Limited to first 100 paid entries

Entries close 3 February 2017  
Saturday Buffet Dinner from 6pm \$20

Shotgun Starts  
12.30pm Day One - 8.30am Day Two

**SATURDAY 18 & SUNDAY 19 FEBRUARY**  
18 Holes Each Day  
Division One - Gross / Nett Stableford  
Divisions Two & Three - Nett / Stableford Twos

Sponsored by **WINGER**

Entry Form online: [www.mangawhaigolf.co.nz](http://www.mangawhaigolf.co.nz)  
Accommodation enquiries: [www.mangawhai.co.nz](http://www.mangawhai.co.nz) (early booking essential)

## THE PHANTOM ACE – A GOOD'UN BY A GOODIN

Rumour has it that club stalwart Jenni Goodin scored a Hole in One in the early days of this New Year. We have not as yet seen a card to verify this shot of great brilliance but we're told it happened on the 6<sup>th</sup> hole. Congratulations to Jenni – even though it's not official, we'll officially recognise it here, under the rights we have as publishers of this esteemed journal.

## AMAZING ACHIEVEMENT BY OUR 10-YEAR-OLD ROBBY

At the North Island Under-19 Boys Championships, in windswept conditions, Mangawhai's 10-year-old Robby Turnbull has turned heads by making the cut after two rounds. His score of 157 (81-76) was recorded off the Blue Tees at Hamilton's St Andrews layout, with the course measuring around 6300 metres. This is the first time in 3 years that a Junior has made the cut at this prestigious event (a 13 year-old). We congratulate Robby and his Coach Terry Young - this is truly an outstanding achievement and we'll all keep a very close eye on his progress as he continues to grow.

## AND BELINDA PROUDLY FLIES THE GIRL'S FLAG

Local Member 16-year-old Belinda May also performed with great distinction at the North Island Under-19 Girls Championship, taking 10<sup>th</sup> place after an outstanding final round of 71 at Riverside Lochiel. Belinda climbed 7 slots on the leaderboard as a result of this great score and deserves our congratulations for doing so well in a very strong field. She also finished a very meritorious second in the Under-16 section of this event.

## BRIDGING THE PROBLEM

With the course work that's been done pre-Xmas there's been a modicum of doubt and confusion over where GUR is rightly in force and just what areas are covered. No-one seems totally sure, but one man has solved the issue by showing great initiative: Bridgey has been seen out there with a GUR sign in amongst his clubs. Rumour has it he's been able to employ this to great effect every time he doesn't like the look of his lie, and has also been making a quid by hiring the sign out to fellow players when they are in need of free relief. That's the sort of thinking that makes our club great!

## THE GREAT PHONE BILL

Amnesia is today's polite word for other age-related mental oversights and our members experience and share all the bewildering symptoms with frightening regularity. As recently as last Friday evening an anonymous person (who'll we give the pseudonym of Bill Naish) became somewhat peeved that someone had stolen his super-smartphone from his cart that was parked (probably just under the "No Parking" sign) outside the clubhouse. Not only that, but the lowlife had left, in its place, some hacked-about brick from days long gone. Justifiably enraged, Bill employed the dexterous fingers of one of his grumpy playing partners (not hard to guess that one) to send a text to the stolen phone. Fairly graphic in detail, the message described a number of bodily contortions as well as threats of police intervention, GPS surveillance and not-too-divine retribution. Deciding also to notify his beloved spouse of the theft, Bill was somewhat bemused when she asked "why is Malcolm sending abusive messages to your phone?". "Because my phone's been stolen! That's what I've rung to tell you.". "No, it's here on the table where you left it.". Shamefaced Bill slips out of sight below the table ... but the mystery remains – how did the decrepit old phone get to be in Bill's cart?". It turns out that Bill was playing in a group that included the celebrated cart parker Chas who is may or may not be quite as decrepit as his phone. He had used his clunky old squawkbox before teeing off and had inadvertently (claiming that "all carts look alike, anyway") placed his phone in Bill's cart. Both were then so zoned in on their games that neither noticed this error until Bill's great discovery. Chas somehow still managed to sneak his way onto the Twilight prizelist whereas Bill quietly snuck away into the gloom of forgetfulness, dreading his return home to explain to his dear wife just how the "phone thief" was meant to perform such physical acts on his own body.