



President's Message

Summer has slipped by very quickly again and were into the lovely time of Autumn when the playing conditions are easier and the days sunny and warm. It's a great time of the year to be playing golf, and where else would you want to be playing but on the best golf club in regional WA. In January, Albany Golf Club was judge #73 club in Australia, in March we're judged #1 club in regional WA. It was an extravaganza Gala Dinner night at the Perth Convention Centre for the WA Golf Industry Awards night that several of us attended to represent the AGC. Dan had nominated the AGC up for consideration in the "Regional Golf Facility of the Year Award" and the judges gave us the nod over Bunbury Golf Club and Dunsborough Lakes Golf Club as the best club for 2020. Thank you Dan and congratulations to all those within the clubs administration and committees for helping to make AGC as good as it is for the members and public to enjoy playing golf.

We have played the prestigious Albany Classic for 2021 and Jason Spinks of AGC, gave Hayden Hopewell from Royal Fremantle GC, a good run over the 36 holes to just miss out on winning the Classic. Well done Jason, and congratulations to Hayden.

Friday nights in the clubhouse are a real buzz these days with well over 130 members cramming into the clubhouse to listen for the Members Lucky Jackpot number being spun up!!!! As of today the Jackpot is \$900, who will it be that takes off the money? Even if you're not a winner you can still enjoy a scrumptious meal prepared and served up to you by our very capable, resident Chef, Emma. Which brings me to the special "Chef's Dinner on April 13th, did you enjoy the meal? I did, so don't despair, we'll be putting on another for you later in the year.

Much is happening in the club admin wise. There is a "Grants and Funding Working Group" looking into the possibility of securing funding to help the club finance some of our big item project in our Business Plan 2021 - 2025. Building plans for the "Buggy room Extensions" are complete and we are moving forward to tender for a builder and then permits to council for the approval to build. Our newly graduated PGA head professional Mike is very busy with Juniors, coaching clinic and trackman evaluations for members and public visitors, wishing to learn to play golf. Have you asked about the "Trackman" evaluation? See Mike for an appraisal, it may identify something to help you improve your game.

You will have seen the first pathway on #14 tee box prepared and prepped for the asphalt to be laid. Our second pathway will be #10 from the putting green path out to the tee box. Keep those Containers for Cash coming in as every containers income goes towards the pathway project.

Next month on Tuesday, May the 4th at 7pm is our AGM to elect new committee members and to hear all the reports of the past year. We shall have a comprehensive document prepared to show where the club is at in aspects of our clubs activities and finances, for you to review and ask questions. Please make the time to come and participate in helping to support your club go forward into the next year of management.

Stay Healthy

Enjoy your golf

George Doubikin - President



Pictured receiving the Regional Golf Club of the Year Award for 2020 is President George, Dan and Michael

General Notice

**The Annual General Meeting of
The Albany Golf Club
takes place in the Club rooms at
7.00pm on Tuesday the 4th May 2021**



Meet Danielle, who will tell us of her RMHC WA experiences.

Albany's Longest Lunch

McDonald's Albany are excited to once again be hosting "Albany's Longest Lunch", supporting the incredible work of Ronald McDonald House Charities WA. RMHC WA provides support and assistance to families with sick kids who live mainly in regional and remote areas. RMHC WA has provided a home away from home for 131 Albany families when they needed it most, amounting to 2,823 nights of accommodation.

We are delighted to welcome back internationally acclaimed chef, Chris Taylor from Fraser's at Kings Park, who is set to provide us a lunch menu to surpass his previous effort - if that's possible! Again, he'll be ably assisted by Albany's very own award-winning chefs, Trenton & Rebecca Brennan, from Ocean & Paddock.

Be sure to join us at Albany Golf Club for this memorable afternoon of sumptuous local food, wines and friendship. There will be amazing auction prizes, a silent auction, as well as a beautiful Mark Blyth Fine Jewellery piece to be won.

Presented by



Proudly Supporting



Cost \$150 per person
Date Friday, 21st May 2021
Time 12pm arrival for a 12.30pm start
Venue Albany Golf Club
Dress Smart Casual
Enquiries Darren and Tracey Tyrrell
0438 270 861
Bookings Click on <https://bit.ly/3e1g1Ni>
or visit www.humanityix.com.au and search Albany's Longest Lunch.



Women's Golf

Ladies golf continues to flourish with great numbers entering all competitions.

The Marshall Family Law Summer Sunstroke final was held on Thursday 25 February with Dorothy Laffin taking out the 2021 trophy on a score of 217. Our gross winner was Wendy Ferguson on a score of 253.

The Albany Classic was held over the weekend of 27 & 28 February and there were 38 ladies who entered. The ladies' winner was Madeleine Ratcliffe, a young gun from the Cottesloe Golf Club, on a score of 156. Notable locals in the top 10 placings were Marion Nelson, Sally Carey, Marilyn Vanderbyl, Sue Burgess, Kerry Steicke, Dorothy Laffin, Jenny Scott and Pauline Ruoss. Our very own Marilyn Vanderbyl took out the Stableford event on a score of 75!

The final of the Audrey Old 4BBB Knockout Match Play was held on Tuesday 16 March with the winners being the team of Cathy Wright and Tessa Metcalfe over the team of Jan Fagents and Hanna Wilkes. The match was fought out in good spirit and refereed by our sponsor Barb Madden. The winners were presented with the perpetual trophy and sponsor's prize on Thursday 18 March.

The ladies' summer season came to a close on Thursday 25 March. Eclectic winners for the Saturday summer season saw a 3-way tie with Judy Little, Helen Groves and Lisa Taylor all on a score of 63. The Thursday summer eclectic had a clear winner in Kerry Steicke on a score of 61 narrowly pipping Pauline Ruoss and Jenny Scott on 61.5. The opening of the winter season is a special event in the ladies' calendar and this year was no exception, given we did not have this opportunity last year due to Covid19. It was a fun day which started with a morning tea in the clubrooms (including a winter warmer tod of Sherry) and some delectable delights provided by our Chef, Emma. The ladies enjoyed much camaraderie here prior to heading over to the first tee to witness our Patron, Val Crossley, hitting the first ball of the season and declaring the Winter Season open. The event was a 4 person Ambrose which included both 18 and 9 hole players. A draw was conducted on the Tuesday prior to the event to create teams of equal handicap. The day was generously sponsored by Wignalls Wines and the winners of the day were Karan Murray, Andrea Tobiassen, Jan Austin and Betty Hoy on a great score of 60.875. The event is then followed by a feast in the clubrooms provided by the ladies themselves. Well done to all who participated and contributed in making it a great day!

Our first Monthly Medal is scheduled for 15 April which includes entry into the GolfWA events of Silver Spoon and International Bowl. The ladies monthly medal is provided by Mark Blyth Fine Jewellery and we also have a putting competition sponsored by Barefoot Clothing.

Tuesday 20 April is the Albany Golf Club Ladies' Open Day. Invitations are extended to all clubs in the Lower Great Southern and the event attracts a big field of players. It is a team event and we endeavour to mix our Albany ladies with our visitors and create an atmosphere of fun and enjoyment. Our Women's Co-Ordinator organises the catering and fund raising for the day among other initiatives. The ladies provide a scrumptious afternoon tea to also share with our guests. The day is sponsored by Darrell Panizza of WFI and Mike Tompkins of Star Sales & Service.

Thank you once again to all the wonderful ground staff who continue to present our course so professionally. It is a credit to you all and we are so blessed to belong to such an amazing club. Of course congratulations go to you all on our recent award as Golf Facility of the Year. What an achievement to be proud of!!

As this is probably my last Woolly Bush article as Ladies' Captain I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your friendship, guidance and support during my tenure. It has been an absolute honour to be in the role and I have gained much from the experience. I have received great support from Davida, Ian and Dan and I thank them very much for all their efforts. I cannot thank my team highly enough for their contributions and I certainly could not have done the job without them. So big thank you to Vice Captain Janine Barrett, Noel Sutherland, Glenda Waugh, Sue Howson, Linda Moir and Jenny Scott – you are all amazing!! Thank you too, to both Liz O'Meara and Judy Little who also form part of the team and give so much!

Thank you also for the opportunity to be part of the Management Team. It is a rewarding experience to be part of the decision making process in taking this wonderful club forward into the future and one that I can highly recommend to members to consider. To all our members, I wish you all good health, laughter and light and of course, good golfing for the coming Winter Season! Stay healthy and stay safe!

Kerry Lane -Ladies' Captain

LGSWGA - CLINIC - 17th May 2021 - Albany Golf Club

Open to all LGSWGA women golfers with GA Handicap 30 and below
Coaches - Shani Waugh - Donna Crouch - Michael Draper - Ian Redmond
Covering all aspects of your game. Cost \$25. - Morning Tea & Reg 8.30am
9.30 - 4.00 - Light lunch provided
Bookings open 19 April - Maximum 40 - so get in early
Individual booking to laffindorothy@gmail.com

From the Captain ...

Taken straight from Game of Thrones, winter is coming! As I sit here preparing this message, I can see 55ml in the rain gauge since 6pm last night and there's more on the way. A reminder that the fairways and greens are slower to recover during winter months, so please repair divots and pitch marks when seen, even if they aren't yours. The Match Committee will monitor the course situation over the winter months to see if preferred lies or pick, clean and place local rules are to be introduced. Also, please keep carts off the slopes and try to avoid puddles on the course and pathways as driving through these areas just makes them worse.

We have historically had a drop off in the numbers of members staying for presentations during winter as we seem to have AFL on just about every night now and it gets dark earlier, however if you are a prize winner we would ask that you please stay to collect your prize and thank the sponsor. Max works tirelessly to make sure we have every competition sponsored and it is disappointing when winners are not there to acknowledge the sponsors. Congratulations to Bede Harold, aged 90, who won this weeks Scroungers competition with a score of +5. Bede did stay for presentations and thanked the sponsor on behalf of the runner up and third place winners who were absent.

The 2020 4 Ball Match Play KO has been finalised and congratulations to the winners Mike Castieau and Brook Gors. The draw for the 2021 event has been done and is displayed on the board near the entry to the bar. Please check your draw and try and play these games as early as possible.

So far this year we have held several major events and all have been hugely successful for the club, resulting in increased membership, a solid financial base, now rated the 73rd best course in the country by Golf Australia and recently winning the prestigious 2020 Regional Golf Facility gong at the WA PGA awards night. All combined with fantastic comments and compliments from the multitude of visitors we had over summer due to ongoing travel restrictions. A massive congratulations must go to Ryan and his team for their ongoing presentation of the course and this flows on to Mike Lane and his small band of Monday volunteers who get in and under to keep the vegetation under control.

There are some big changes going on, with the installation of ceiling fans in the lounge, the work to pave our pathways has commenced and we are upgrading our IT systems in the next few months. These changes will help put us on the correct road to future success.

Steve Johnson - Captain

Hole In One:

Rob Willcocks
Al Fasolo
Max Loveridge
Cass Porter

Membership and Marketing

Membership at the club is still on track with new memberships far exceeding resignations that are always sad to see come in. Of late we have had good members leave town, have injuries not allowing them to play or for various reasons decided not to continue playing golf with us. Great to see a number of former members rejoining of late so welcome back! We are currently sitting at 637 members. There are still some outstanding membership subs to be paid so be great if you can get these into Davida asap.

Marketing of the Club still continues albeit at a smaller scale. Our Glossy Coffee table Brochure has been dropped into hundreds of households in the immediate city areas and feedback has been really good. There is still a smattering of Club awareness Television Ads to air but fewer than normal.

Alan Dean is doing a great job helping me with promoting the club on facebook with comp day stories, pics and whatever as they arise. Thanks Al!

Sponsorships. We continue to attract good sponsors to the AGC and members are getting the message to offer at the least an opportunity to our partners and sponsors whenever we can so thank you to all that do.

Wellington and Reeves Real Estate have jumped in to take over the Sunday Sweepstakes Competition for 2021-2022 with again the final Shootout in Feb next year. We are also fortunate to have existing Club members in Kevin Naylor and Paul Armstrong in Sales along with Office Manager Tom Moir all working alongside Principal Directors Kathleen Mier and Barry Panizza.

The Club is extremely grateful to have W&Rs on board for this very popular Sunday comp so if you do get the chance to say thanks to any of the above if you bump into them then great. Ideally of course again to at least give them an opportunity to service your Real Estate needs should the time be right.

The Ryde Building Company's/AGC Corporate fundraising day for the club is up Friday May 7th and again we offer a huge thank you to Nigel Ryde and his team. Albany's No1 Builder of choice have been aligned with our club for 7 years now and build a great value, quality home so please remember them again if and when the time is right. Nigel is a member here so feel free to call him.

This day is always popular and this year should be no different where teams of 4 enter a fun day of golf either mixed, men or ladies. Members and non members welcome to play with or without even a handicap. A BBQ lunch. Drinks on course and even snacks after Golf at presentation are all part of the \$75 entry fee which has remained this price for 7 years.

Max Loveridge
Chair

Membership/Marketing/Sponsorship..

Golf WA Awards Night



Judy Loveridge, Dan Northcott, Ian Redmond



Max & Judy

George & Heather



Laura & Michael Draper



Jason & Nicole Spinks - , Laura & Michael

NEW MEMBERS

Jonathan Leach – Soc
Johann Le Roux – Soc
Vanessa Floyd – Short Term 3
Hayden Johnson – Soc
Herb Wiegele – Soc
Adam Ditchburn – SP9
Steve Opalinski – Full
Toby Woods – Soc
Connor Orzel – U25
Geoff Augustson – Soc
Peter Grigg – Soc
Mike Procos – Full
Karen McCracken – SP9
Rueben Dekker – Soc
Anthony Kingston – SP9
Sam Baddeley – Soc
Chris Walker – Soc
Alan Dowsett – Soc
James Langridge – Full
David Cohen – Country
Neil Power – FIFO
Craig Sims – Soc
Simon Judd – Full
Jack Spaanderman – Soc

From the editor

I was asked recently why we have a "Woolly Bush" Newsletter, so I thought that a bit of history about the Club's newsletter might be worth sharing with our members. The earliest newsletter that we have on file is from September 1968. It was titled Newsletter No. 1, and it came with the following introduction:

"Members,

For some time the Committee has been aware of the need to promulgate more efficiently items of interest to you. Such matters as Committee decisions, club and golf rules, social events etc. must be brought to the members' notice. Too frequently in the past we have attempted to do this in brief verbal notices after the presentation of trophies each Saturday, but for obvious reasons this has not been entirely successful.

The issue of a regular news sheet would seem the obvious answer to the problem, provided that someone with the ability, the required facilities and access to the necessary information be willing to perform this onerous task.

We are pleased to state that our part-time Secretary, Mr Gordon Trenberth, has expressed his willingness to undertake the initial task of getting this project under way.

We are sure that all members will give "Topper" their utmost support in this worthwhile venture.

..... The Committee"

"(Thank you chaps for your kind words, and may I say to the members that I propose that this news sheet be entirely friendly and utilitarian and that any who desire literary exercise or embellishment must seek elsewhere. From the start I appeal to all members and associates to pass on to me contributions, suggestions, requests, personal pars etc. which they consider would be of interest to members generally. I can assure them that these would be most welcome)"

..... "Topper"

So, here we are more than half a century later, where we have a newsletter that heralds a range of news and information that is relevant to people across all categories of our Club's membership.

My involvement in the club's History & Heritage Committee has helped me appreciate the importance of good communication and record keeping for the club's archives. *Woolly Bush* has certainly proved itself as a reliable record of past traditions, members positions and achievements, plus as a medium for outlining the club's planning goals.

Of course, a lot has changed since the first edition rolled off a very basic printing press all those years ago. Now, most members receive their copy of *Woolly Bush* electronically, but we still print a number of copies for those who shy clear of the digital information highway. In closing, I would like to reiterate Topper's words regarding member contributions—keep them flowing in, and let's continue to enjoy an interesting and informative club newsletter.

Marilyn Smith (Editor)

Attention Members - \$150

Any AGC member purchasing a new or used vehicle or ARB product over \$10000 and our club receives additional sponsorship from AWOC. Just mention your membership at initial purchase and Dealer Principal Claude Mattiaccio will do the rest.

Contact Claude direct
on 0400 341 014

Albany
WORLD OF CARS



History & Heritage....

THE 'BOYDSVILLE TRACK'

With the recent upgrading of the path leading from the 14th tee (formerly the 9th) it is timely to reflect on its origins. At the February 1970 meeting of the management committee, captain Bob Boyd "asked for the committee's opinion on constructing a causeway from the 9th tee over the gully towards the 9th green. After discussion it was resolved that the matter lay on the table until the May meeting"

Prior to the May meeting, the following appeared in the May 1970 Newsletter.

CAUSEWAY FROM 9th TEE?

Soon the Committee will be giving consideration to the possibility of constructing an earth causeway from near the 9th tee across the deep valley immediately in front of it towards the green.

Its obvious advantage would be the making easier one's movement from the tee to the green. Those who would benefit most would be those who find the present setup difficult.

The disadvantages are equally obvious. The natural contours of the links (a feature of this course) would be impaired; and as a golfing hole it would lose much of its present appeal. The threat to erosion would be ever present and lastly could not the money be better spent on other more essential tasks around the course?

Though steep, the slope is very short and for the vast majority, not too difficult. Surely the course must be designed for the majority, not the few?

Members of the Committee would like to hear of your views on this topic.

There is no further mention of the proposal, either at the May meeting or subsequently, but Val Crossley recalls that Bob Boyd took the matter into his own hands and just did it, to the consternation of some on the committee. There are other current members who were around at that time – it would be much appreciated if you can add to this story.

Have a look next time you play the 14th – fortunately the feared erosion has not happened but the significant change to the natural contours makes one ponder whether such a proposal would be approved by the Heritage Council today.



Barbara Madden - Chair, History & Heritage Committee

From AGC Newsletter No. 1:
Smorgasbord Lunch
\$1.20 per head
Drawing of Sweep
9 Holes of golf for the stayers
Tickets from the Social Committee

BEGINNER LADIES GOLF

OPEN TO ALL BEGINNER LADY GOLFERS

LOOKING TO TAKE UP GOLF?

THURSDAYS 10AM - 11AM & 11AM - 12NOON
STARTING 22nd April 2021
MAX 6 PER CLASS

4 WEEK PROGRAM COVERING ALL AREAS,
WITH OUR HEAD PROFESSIONAL
MIKE DRAPER

\$80 PER PERSON

TO BOOK PHONE MIKE ON 0454 464 077

The Containers for Change is going exceptionally well and work has already commenced on the paths. If you have a spare hour on a Monday around 11am and would like to join the committee of 1, please let President George know. All help would be appreciated.

ALBANY GOLF CLUB JUNIOR GOLF ACADEMY

5 - 12 YEARS & 13-18 YEARS

- WEEKLY CLASSES
- TERM BASED SCHEDULING
- GAMES-BASED TRAINING
- INDIVIDUAL PRACTICE PLANS

Term Fee- \$150

- FREE ACADEMY CAPS
- ACCESS TO GOLF COURSE
- OUTSIDE COMPETITIONS
- 9 HOLE COMPETITIONS OFF JUNIOR TEES

TERM 2 ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN

To register contact Michael on 0456 464 077 or email mdraper@juniorgolfclub.org.au

Congratulations Emma ...

Simply outstanding and beyond expectations were the comments from those who attended the Chef's Dinner on Tuesday 13th April.

Outstanding value for such a high quality meal.

Congratulations to Emma, Vicki and Tahlia - you definitely excelled For those who missed out another dinner is in the planning so be sure to get your name in early as you will miss out next time.

Pictured enjoying themselves are members and guests.



Entries Now Open!

Friday 7th May 2021

Premium Sponsor

Corporate Golf Day

- Ambrose teams event - any combo
- 10am Shotgun start
- \$300 per team of 4 or \$75pp
- Snacks at presentations
- Social golfers welcome
- On course BBQ/Beer/Wine/Softdrink
- Harley Davidson - Hole in One
- Huge range of prizes inc novelties

Open Now on MiClub
Or contact AGC for info on 9844 8855

www.rydebuiding.com.au

Our thanks to Nigel Ryde and all the support sponsors

Junior Golf

Sunday 28th March marked the end of another successful term for the Albany Junior Golf Academy. We had record numbers this term with 18 total with most being primary school students between the ages of 5 and 12. There was some fantastic golf played on course this term and it's exciting to watch some of them progress through the levels- for example, we have two 7 year-olds in Division 3, teeing off from 100m out on each hole and regularly scoring 3's and 4's from this distance which is very impressive given their age. For term 2 we are looking to get this number over 20 students in total so we can split the class in 2 and separate the young ones from the older ones as there is a 10-year age gap between the youngest and oldest at the moment. We look forward to another successful term of Junior Golf starting on Sunday 25th April!

Michael Draper