



"The Preferred Lie!"

The Newsletter of the North Stradbroke Island Golf Club.
November 2024



Members and friends of the Straddie Golf Club, welcome to the November 2024 Edition of the *Preferred Lie*. Well, can you believe that retailers have been rolling out their Christmas decorations and stock for at least three weeks by now! "Where has the year gone?" I hear you ask. My answer is always the same: *"Don't give it a second thought. It'll be March before you know it!"*

From the President's Desk

The year is rapidly closing in on Christmas. You also know that when the Rainbow Bee-eaters return to the course, summer is not far behind.



Two of our Rainbow Bee-eaters

Pleasing to see that users of the course are generally avoiding their marked nest sites. Not many would expect or know that these birds return each year to nesting sites about the course mainly on the fairways in 1.5 meter long tunnels that the female excavates, while the male feeds her from the abundant insects, taken on the wing that also call NSI home. The rhythm of life continues.



The Bee-eaters Nesting Tunnel

This month we have had to remove and replace the Club's bore pump. The pump lies 125m below the surface and is located down by the entrance to the course. The pump is 25m under the water in a large fresh water aquifer. The pictures show the difficulty in raising the 180kg, 2.1m pump and 125m of flat hose which is attached to the pump to bring the water to the surface and into our above ground tanks adjacent to the Clubhouse.

The following three pictures show how the old tractor was used to raise the hose and the pump hydraulically from the bore. Connection with the hose was followed by reversing the tractor and pulling the hose away from the bore until the pump itself was exposed. All of this was time consuming and fraught with potential danger because the trick is not to lose the pump down the bore hole.



Losing the pump would mean a new bore hole and a new pump (cost north of \$120,000). As things turned out, we had to raise and lower the pump twice. We, that is the 3 of us doing the job, learnt plenty and are not keen to spin the wheel of fortune any time soon. Eight years have passed since we replaced the last pump in the middle of the bushfires that consumed 80% of the Island. The wash up this time is that we have only to replace 25m of cable and we will have 2 pumps again - one down the bore hole and one on standby.

The course and clubhouse are improving as time and money allow. We get many comments praising the Club for its presentation, especially the condition of the greens which are far above what visitors have said they were expecting and comparable, if not better than their own club greens. As many of these visitors come from all over Australia and indeed the world, they are a ready-made source of free advertising. All clubs are judged by the condition of the greens regardless of season.

That's it from me. See you about the course.

Peter Turner

From the Club Captain

As we near the end of the year, here is a summary of the results of major Club competition events.

Medal of Medals - Lyn King has once again proven that age and gender matters little at this Club by taking out the 2024 Medal of Medals final. A great performance Lyn - congratulations.

Straddie Beach Hotel Medley

Congrats go to Trevor Scott and Dr Sam Catalano, victors in the two-day Medley.

Minor prizes went to Brent Doody and Neil Bienkie for the best score in the 4BBB and James Nohokau and Grant Robertson for the Sunday Ambrose.

The Medley remains a popular event for the devoted, actively engaged members whose presence every week on the golf course is much appreciated.

Matchplay

The Annual Matchplay Competition is yet to be finalised but at the time of 'going to press' the finalists, Lyn King and Gabe D'hage-Craig are 'biting

at the bit'. A large gallery of local roos will be following the play!

Summer Program

The program has been posted on the members verandah notice board. Check out the highlights which include the Christmas Ham (21 December), thanks to Santa Uncle George Khan and the Australia Day *Nineteenth Hole* Dining voucher (25 January) thanks to Joan and James Nohokau.

Women's Golf Clinics.

Thanks to the wonderful support of our members, Alison, Lyn, Teresa and Desley, the graduates from the 'golf clinic' program are continuing to be supported and are making the most of the opportunity. They are having fun and improving their game at the same time. Pixie Shearwin, one of the graduates showed me her brand new set of clubs yesterday!

An App for Emergencies

Now here's something a bit different from me. It's about a New App called the **Emergencyplus App**. It's a good story which should be heard by our members. Our exposure to the benefits of this App came up during a regular meeting of the Club's Risk Assessment Management Sub-committee – a meeting which occurs monthly to address any risks associated with play and visitation to the Clubhouse and Golf Course. The Club has an obligation to maintain a comprehensive risk management plan given the activities which take place on our leasehold. Being able to attend to unforeseen medical emergencies is an ever-present risk requiring ambulance attendance expeditiously. Hence our interest in the **Emergencyplus App**.

After an information session with the local Ambulance officers organised through the RAMP Committee, the App was downloaded on many phones. Within 2 hours one such recipient used it to have an ambulance arrive in quick time to assist with a friend who had a fall and sustained a serious ankle injury.

How does it work?

The Emergencyplus App uses GPS functionality built into smartphones and it gives the emergency dispatcher your exact location, including the exact co-ordinates - so there is no doubt over your precise whereabouts.

If you are travelling or in an unfamiliar location and need help, it can be hard to know exactly where you are, and often difficult for you to describe accurately when stressed. Now, a charged smartphone will do the job. We suggest you download it immediately!!

Just go to your APP Store and type in: **Emergencyplus**.

Kev Zielke

From our Contractors – Joan and James Nohokau

Here are some highlights from the Nineteenth Hole at the Clubhouse. We are seeing a lot of Fathers and children enjoying a day on the fairway then a spot of lunch at the Nineteenth. It's a lovely relaxed time for families at 'Royal Dunwich'.

Over the last couple of months visitors appear to be on the rise and this is likely to continue into the Summer months with school holidays adding to the numbers on the island.

Our local school is holding its year 6 graduation at the Golf club - exciting times for the graduands who will be heading off to High School next year.

We will be starting Breakfast at the Nineteenth Hole on the first Sunday in December and will continue through the holidays with special Lunch menus coming too.

That's all for now folks.

Cheers,

James and Joan

From the Editor

The Minjerribah Photography Awards hosted by the Club in partnership with the Straddie Arts Trail was a great success again this year. It certainly showcased the diverse talent of local and visiting photographers, young and old. As Cath Carol describes it, "This event celebrates the natural beauty and heritage of Minjerribah through the lens of creativity and perspective, with this year's theme: '**Flowers**' - wild, free, captivating, and spontaneous - a symbol of unity.

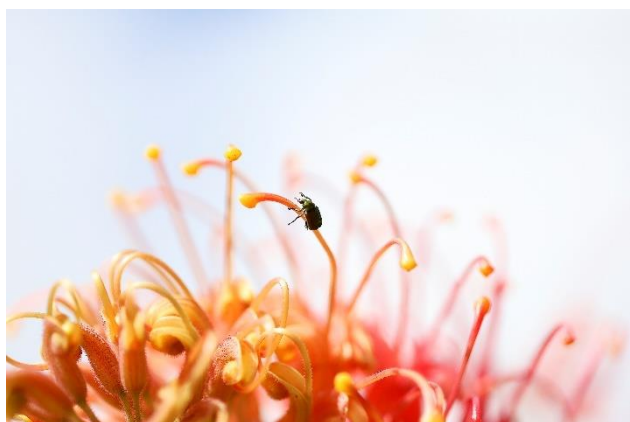
And the results were:

Winner Open Category – Aunty Margaret and Uncle Pat Iselin Photography Award for 2024 -

Haley Kolodychuk for her photo "GREVILLEA AT THE 9TH HOLE" - 1ST PRIZE OF \$1000 sponsored by NSIGC, QYAC, Straddie Arts Trail and Straddie Island News



Runner up - Open Category,
Anita Ong, for her photo "FRAGILE LIFE " - prize money of \$500 dollars sponsored by the Groom Family and Stradbroke Flyer Gold Cats.



Three HIGHLY COMMENDED certificates were presented in the Open Category to:
Travis Klein -- "EMERGING"
Alison Jane Myers - "THE WONDERS OF NATURE THROUGH CHILDREN'S EYES"
Pixie Shearwin -- "WILDFIRE"

The High School Award – prizemoney of \$250 donated by the Neville and Cribb families.
Winner -- Isabella Bailey – "GOLDEN GLOW."



Primary School Award – prizemoney of \$250 donated by the Dempster family. Winner – Lavinia Ruska-Weegberg for "WINTER SNOW GUM"



HIGHLY COMMENDED IN THE UNDER 18s

Dominic Thelander - "THEA AND ME"
Charlotte Schofield - "HOME FOR MANY"
Darcie Donaghy – "GREEN LEAVES STRIPS"

The People's Choice Award of \$150 is yet to be determined with voting open at the Clubhouse until 30 November where some fifty of the 200 plus entries are on display. Just ask at the Clubhouse for a voting slip. The picture with the most votes will be declared the winner to round off this year's competition. Thanks go to all of the photographers for making the award so competitive and to the sponsors for their generosity. And what of next year? Perhaps it will be birds or animals on the course, so watch out for details around June 2025.

That's it from me. *Neil Dempster*