



"The Preferred Lie!"

The Newsletter of the North Stradbroke Island Golf Club.

January 2025



Members and friends of the Straddie Golf Club, welcome to the January 2025 Edition of the *Preferred Lie*. We start this year with a solid and demanding 2024 now behind us. The Club's reliance on volunteers has decreased although it is still with us in the Clubhouse for 3 days a month. Down on the course, all is as usual where the volunteer work under Greenkeeper President Peter, never stops.

From the President's Desk

Hope your Christmas break treated you well. Lovely to see members enjoying their course over the break. The course was in great shape and inundated with holiday makers enjoying the Club at its best. I would say without a doubt (and the figures reflect it) that this was the most successful holiday period on record. The Island struggled to accommodate the numbers, especially the day trippers. With numbers comes wear and tear on the island's tourism infrastructure and our environment. The Club was impacted by this concentration of holiday makers using the course and its facilities. Being the Island's only Golf course means golfers of all abilities use the course at varying times. I was pleased to see families including small children doing the rounds and having fun.

The lessons learnt will be a focus of committee discussions over the coming months. Since the visitors generate 80% of the Club's turnover, encouraging family groups to visit the Club is not rocket science.

The increase we are experiencing in the Club's prosperity means that we will complete the change-over of the final 4 lead acid golf carts to lithium batteries earlier than anticipated. We will also be trading in the family cart for 2 replacement lithium family carts. This brings the fleet to 10 x 2 seaters and 2 x 4seaters.

I would like to thank Paul Arnold for his help in constructing the new carport stowage area between the house and the toilet block where some of these carts will be stored out of the weather. The concrete slab was laid 8 years ago by Brian Hunt, a current veteran member of the Club. This just goes to show

what a few good men and women can do with very little money and plenty of time.

The season has brought its annual rainfall. The course looks great, however, our system of cart tracks beside fairways requires further work to reduce wear on the golf cart fleet.

The rainbow bee-eaters have finally migrated further north. This year we had two successful nest sites out of 9 known sites. The black cockatoos were back last week with 2 juveniles in a party of 9, and 'Lefty' the magpie is still about and must be at least 6 years old by now.

That's the lot for now. See you about the course.

Peter Turner

From the Club Captain

The Normy Gardner Memorial Golf Day attracted 53 keen golfers.

Andrew MacFarlane, Seth Vince and Luke were victors and their names will be added to the timber honour board on display in the clubhouse. Members may like to know this outstanding wooden 'sculpture' was turned from a fallen mango tree and is formed in the shape of Straddie, the island. Congrats to Darren Gardner for such wonderful workmanship!

Kev Zielke

From our Contractors – Joan and James Nohokau

We had Year 6 graduation at the Club before Christmas and all the young people looked amazing and ready to take on the world with confidence. Well done Dunwich State School educators. The following pictures highlight the Club's ambience for the evening.



The Clubhouse Deck looking great for the Grade 6 Graduation night



Grade 6 students on arrival with some getting ready for Putt Putt



What it took to finish off a wonderful evening!

We have had the Junior Golf clinic in December and January great participation. Thanks to our pro, Steve Boswell and Club Captain Kevin Zielke

The Normy Gardner day had great attendance as reported above, with the Clubhouse providing a pleasant gathering for all returning golfers after their rounds.

The visit by members from Poly Golf (the online Club representing Polynesian golfers across the Pacific) went well. The video of the course they filmed over two days, including drone shots, came out in the second week of January (14/1/25) at 6.00pm. All members are encouraged to view it on the Club's Facebook page.

We are seeing lots of families enjoying our course and then staying on for lunch at the 19th. Foul Friday is going well too. That said, more member involvement is encouraged. An added incentive is that we at the 19th, put on nibbles for players between 4:00 and 4:30 pm after completion of their rounds.

'Breakfast with a View' on Sunday mornings is attracting growing support and again, we encourage people to book.

That's all for now folks.
Cheers,

James and Joan

From the Editor

Here's a little game for you that I tried out on the Committee at its breakup in December. What you have to do is to match the author's name to the book title (both are a bit of nonsense as you'll see).

Look for what you think is the best author for each title, then put the number of that author in the middle column beside the book title. You'll see that I've given you an example for the first book title:

A. Chipping for Beginners #8.

Good Luck. I'll publish the answers in the next 'Preferred Lie'.

Title	#	Author
A. Chipping for beginners	#8	#1. By I.C.Nerves
B. Understanding the Yips		#2. By Pat D'Pill
C. Lengthening your Drive		#3. By May Waitalot
D. How best to use the Sand Iron		#4. By A. Longfellow
E. Tall Tales and Preferred Lies		#5. By U.Z. Wedge
F. Straightening out Slices		#6. By U.B. D. Judge
G. Managing Competition Stress		#7. By Mina Pink
H. Female Golfing Attire		#8. By I.C.D. Green
I. Male Golfing Attire		#9. By Fanny Shakesalot
J. Favourite Ball Colours		#10. By U. Baggit
K. What to do in the Rough		#11. By Bieren Tucker
L. Dying for a Game		#12. By Eva Stick
M. Putting Made Easy		#13. By Jock Stretcher
N. Lofted Shots		#14. By Ben. Z. Nees
O. The 19 th Hole		#15. By Ed Turner
P. On Course Etiquette		#16. By Laurel Wreath

That's it from me. Keep chipping away.

Neil Dempster