



"The Preferred Lie!"

The Newsletter of the North Stradbroke Island Golf Club.

June 2025



Members and friends of the Straddie Golf Club, welcome to the June 2025 Edition of the *Preferred Lie*. The Winter is upon us and it brings with it delightfully clear days, best seen from the Clubhouse deck. The Glasshouse Mountains are a standout feature way across the bay and the sunsets are gorgeous. Just look at the one below.



A Winter sunset from the Straddie Clubhouse

On the course itself, as usual, we have seen the return of the red-tailed black cockatoos. Two were spotted in the trees adjacent to the 7th tee only last week.



Glossy Black Cockatoos - yellow tailed female and male

The track down to the fourth has been 'on fire' for more than a month, as members and visitors have noted.



A burst of 'fire' on the fourth

All in all, the unhurried experience of golfing on Minjerribah is accompanied by exposure to inquisitive wildlife, friendly magpies and plovers in particular, as well as resident mobs of Eastern Grey kangaroos. There is no doubt the roos feel that the course is 'theirs' but to their credit, they are prepared to step aside when we humans want to use the tees.

From the President's Desk

The Club Championships are over for another year and I am pleased to see the numbers up from previous years. Congratulations to the winners. As always it is never a done deal, you can win from anywhere in the field. The volunteers were tickled pink to see their efforts over the year rewarded with participation in what is the Club's permanent test of skill. It doesn't matter if you think your volunteering is

not connected to maintaining the course. Everything you do as a volunteer ensures that your Club is there 365 days a year. On behalf of the members, THANK YOU.

As the Club's prosperity continues to improve, the course and its equipment are now the focus of the Club Committee. While we can accept accolades for the current standard, many of us can remember no grass, teeing up on all fairways, or as we were continually told, playing as if in a large sand bunker.

Improvements require money and skilled labour. As we supply the above, the course will be in a state of 'ongoing construction' over the next 5 or so years. This has been the case since 1976 when the first fairways were cleared by a dedicated group of local members. Those intrepid golfing advocates must have wondered what they had got themselves into. There was no surface water available, let alone a bore. There was no grass for the sandy fairways. Turf tufts were cut from the old course in Dunwich, transported and re-laid at the new course, then grown with the luck of God-given rain. As the grass cover grew, it was cut by push lawn mowers on weekends before golfers played.

If you think the current course is not good enough, you are a hard marker indeed, but one who disregards the efforts of so many members whose work has taken it to its present standard. Watch this space. For any doubters, there's more improvement to come!

I hope to have further information on the Club's lease arrangements shortly. We are waiting on a response from Council. While winter is here, the Black cockatoos, shown above, are here feeding on the *She Oaks* down around the sixth tee. Did you know we have two species of *She Oak* of which only one is edible by the cockatoos. Talk about living on the edge. Just like us.

See you about the course.

Peter Turner

From the Club Captain

Club Championships 2025

Congrats to all who took part. It was undoubtedly the best turnout for many years with some outstanding individual achievements.

Highlights include:

- George Gray's first 18 holes with a 76 gross score
- Lachlan Brooks 35 (1 under) on the last nine and a 79 gross score
- Peter Moulang and Mat Boswell scoring 78 gross on the final day.
- The hard fought battle between Jennifer Heisig and Amanda Wood resulting in Jennifer taking out the honours in a play-off.
- The 36 hole battle between Juanita Forrester and Joanne Cochrane that just went Juanita's way.

Amazingly, despite a significant increase in those participating in this year's championship, the result table is identical to last year's table except for the new *C Grade Ladies* category.

In Neil Bienkie's words at the impromptu celebration on the final Saturday once all the results were announced:

"That just goes to show it was no fluke last year".

TABLE of Results

Club & A Grade Champ: George Gray 156

B Grade Champ: Neil Dempster 175

C Grade Champ: Neil Bienkie 210

B Grade Ladies Champ: Juanita Forrester 182

C Grade Ladies Champ: Jennifer Heisig 132

Best Gross: George Gray 143

Runner-up Gross: Neil Dempster 145

What a weekend our B Grade Champ had with a hole-in-one on the 141 metre par 3, 15th, on Friday 20 June.

Local Rules

Now to a new initiative. Members, please take note of the "Local Rule " posted on our veranda results board. This will be an on-going process highlighting one rule each fortnight. I would be interested in hearing from members which rules need attention.

The intent is to promote discussion and hence better understanding of our Local Rules which must be read in conjunction with the global RULES of GOLF, 2019 edition.

Kev Zielke

From our Contractors – Joan and James Nohokau

The Clubhouse deck is a great place for social groups to gather now Winter is here. In the warm afternoon sunshine, we are well protected from South-Easterlies with the new see-through 'blinds' the Club has installed.

Don't forget that there are a number of things for the kids to do, making a visit very family friendly. Added to free Putt Putt, there are games of Deck Quoits, Child-sized Connect 4 and oversized Jenga. Mum and Dad, Grandma and Grandpa should be able to relax for a few minutes at least.

Our Sunday roasts continue to be well patronised but booking is essential to avoid disappointment. The same could be said for Fathers' Day which is coming up soon. How about a round of Golf for Dad followed by a great lunch on the deck. Gift vouchers for this kind of package are available by calling the Club. Let's do it!

Cheers,

Joan and James

From the Editor

Self-indulgence personified!



Say no more! Just keep chipping away...

Neil Dempster