

Week ending Sat 2nd Jan 2021

Graeme Harrison has made an excellent start to 2021 taking out the January Monthly Medal on Saturday by one shot from Peter "Penguin" Nelson.

After moving into A Grade in 2020 the House of Harrison founder added another Medal shirt to his wardrobe with a round of 87-17-70 also taking out the A Grade winner's trophy in the process.

Medal runner-up Penguin had some consolation taking out the B Grader winner's trophy with a round of 104-33-71 and just maybe the handicapper has some work to do there.

Both Harro and Penguin put down their success to the absence of regular playing partner Peter Noble who fell victim to a fake weather report and chose to stay home to avoid the severe weather event that never came. Now you know why it's called YR. NO Peter!!

Lawrie Casey was the A Grade Runner Up with 84-12-72 in a count back from Pooch McHale with 81-9-72, both men blowing their medal chances with some errant putting in the closing holes of their rounds.

Some consolation for Pooch though as his round of 81 was the best gross score of the day.

Alan Hausler was the B Grade Runner Up with 93-19-74 and he too took consolation from the fact that his round of 93 was the best gross score in B Grade.

Nambour's Beverley Maddison took out the ladies' event with 101-22-79 from Helen Emery with 95-14-81.

John Burrows had a good day on the Par three holes taking home the B Grade NTP ball on the 3rd and followed that up with an excellent club selection on the 15th that saw him land his tee shot to within three metres of the hole before converting his birdie putt.

Mick Gallivan won the A Grade NTP while balls in the ball comp went to Pooch, Tom Kerr (Nett 73), Mick Gallivan (74), John Burrows (75), John Heywood (76) and Jeff Carnie (76).

Meanwhile Les Hall finished the year with 38 points and a win in Tuesday's comp from Ian Scurrah with 37. Peter Mangan was another shot back with 36 points picking up a ball in the ball comp as did Squizzy Taylor with 35.

Nobby won the NTP ball on the 3rd while Des Pentreath took home the last voucher on the 15th for 2020.

A cheerio to the club's resident physician in Michael McQueen – Thomson who is recovering from recent heart surgery and we wish the Doc well for a speedy recovery.

Week ending Sat 9th Jan 2021

Saturday's Stableford round was the second of the Summer Cup and Tom Mangan should make sure he keeps the dates for the third and fourth rounds free after posting this week's headline round of 43 Stableford points.

Playing off a handicap of 27 Tom set up his win with a front nine of 23 points and indeed was on track for an even bigger score when he left the 13th green with 36 points already in the bank.

However, an errant tee shot into the trees on the left hand side of the 14th fairway left him scrambling for a single point. He quickly re-covered with two and three points on the 15th and 16th holes respectively and even though he only picked up one point on the last two holes he had already done enough to win B Grade comfortably from Ian Scurrah with 38 points.

I might add that, having played with Tom for the first time on Saturday not only was I taken by his ball striking but I was mightily impressed with his sledging prowess too.

In A Grade Daryl Harrison has been in good form of late and he took the winner's voucher with 38 points from Lawrie Casey with 35 points.

That score puts Daryl at the top of the Summer Cup table after he notched up 37 points in December's first round and, while I don't have all the scores available to me from both Summer Cup rounds, by my calculations he has a seven shot buffer from Peter Noble who picked up a ball with 34 points on Saturday to add to his December round of 36 points.

Meanwhile Helen Armstrong was the ladies' winner with 34 points in a close contest from Tracey Wade with 33 points.

Ball comp winners were Paul Dickens (36 points), John Neale (36), Kevin Bauerle (35), Les Hall (34), Nobby (34), Trevor Withall (34) and David Collins (33).

Bud Thorsen took home the only NTP ball claimed on the 3rd while Miles Gould won the voucher on the 15th hole.

On Sunday our Summer Pennant team opened its season with a tightly contested 3-2 win against Rushworth at Mooroopna.

David Collins and Mick Gallivan won their match 4&3, Peter Blackmore and Lawrie Casey won 2 up while the Daryl Harrison-Ed McQuienn and Dom Cerrone – John Burrows combinations lost their matches 3&1 and 3&2 respectively.

That left the result in the hands of Ash and Paul Kuiper who duly produced the goods with Ash sinking a pressure putt on the last hole from just over a metre to secure a 1 up win.

Week ending Sat 16th January 2021

One is starting think that Graeme Harrison was born to be an A Grade golfer. After seemingly reducing his handicap to 15 in in the blink of an eye the club's form golfer won another A Grade event on Saturday just a fortnight after taking out the January Monthly Medal.

Harro won with 38 Stableford points and by two shots from Lawrie Casey who found himself the A Grade runner up for the third week running with 36 points.

In B Grade Dylan Gallivan took home his first Valley View winner's trophy with 38 points by one shot from John Neale with 37.

Marilyn Ross won the ladies with 36 points from Gill Thorsen with 34.

Ball winners were Jeff Carnie with 36 points, Mick Gallivan (35), Tatura's Fred McMahon (34), Kevin Humbert (34), Daryl Harrison (33) and Ian Scurrah rounded out a good day for our Lockington-Bamawm members with 33 points.

Mooroopna duo Tom McConchie (A Grade) and Barry Williams (B) won the NTP balls on the 3rd while Johnny Heywood won the voucher on the 15th hole.

The Harrison family seems to be dominating the men's results of late with Daryl following up his win from the previous Saturday with 37 points on Tuesday and a two shot buffer from Peter Noble with 35.

Daryl would have been a popular drinking companion after the round as he also added the voucher for NTP on the 15th to his winner's trophy. He also won the NTP ball on the 3rd to complete a clean sweep of the trophies.

Other ball winner were Kelly Cheong, John Burrows and Kevin Humbert all with 34 points.

On Sunday our Pennant team posted a convincing 4-1 win over Mooroopna at Hill Top. The match scores were as follows:

P Blackmore & L Casey won 4&3

P Dickens & D Cerrone won 6&5

G Harrison & M Coyne won 3&2

P Kuiper & M Gallivan won 1 up

D Harrison & E McQuienn lost 4&2

Week ending Sat 23rd January 2021

Scoring in Saturday's was even hotter than the temperature with scores in the 40's needed to win both grades.

In A Grade, Rushworth's Kelly Cheong burned the course up taking home the winner's trophy with a round of 41 Stableford points off a handicap of 12 which equates to a round 79 off the stick, his best ever at Valley View.

Not far behind him was Daryl Harrison with 39 points off a handicap of 11 which equates to around of 80 off the stick.

In B Grade Tom Mangan made it two wins from two starts with another 43 points and that came after shedding three shots from his handicap when he posted the same score a fortnight ago.

An extremely unlucky Peter Nelson (his words as he passed me in the supermarket) finished as the B Grade runner up with 40 points, a score that would see him as the winner most days.

Helen Armstrong kept the excellent scoring going in the ladies' event with 37 points and a three-shot margin from Jenni Bauerle with 34.

Ball winners were Paul Dickens with 38 points, John Heywood (37), Sean Ryan (37), Wal Tink (37), Geoff Strachan (35) and Alan Hausler (35).

Robin Quinn also picked up a ball for A Grade Nearest the Pin on the 3rd and clearly enjoys the 3rd as he won the same trophy in Tuesday's comp.

Peter Noble won the voucher on the 15th but left his four-metre birdie putt centimetres short as it tracked straight toward the cup.

Tuesday's winner was Kevin Humbert with 35 points in a count back from Robin Quinn.

Ball winners were Peter Blackmore with 34, Nobby with 32 and Kerry Kreeck also with 32 points.

Our Summer Pennant team members had to be on the road early on Sunday for a 730am start against Nagambie at Nagambie.

The early wakeup call was too much for Lawrie Casey and Peter Blackmore who were duly replaced in the team by Gavon Armstrong and Mark Soden who got the team off to a solid start with a one up win.

Daryl Harrison and Ed McQuienn also posted a one up win (their first of the season) and David Collins & Dom Cerrone took their match with a comfortable 4&3 win.

The final overall score was 3-2 win for Valley View with Paul Dickens and Mick Gallivan (2 down) and Ash and Paul Kuiper (4&3) going down.

SCOOP

Week ending Sat 30th January 2021

A slow track after Friday's rain put the kibosh on the recent high scoring with only person playing to better than handicap in Saturday's Stableford event.

That person was Johnny Heywood who posted the day's best score of 37 points to take out B Grade by three shots.

Johnny has rapidly brought his handicap down to 19 in recent times and is on the cusp of becoming an A Grader which would be a just reward for perseverance and LOTS of practise.

While Johnny posted the best Stableford score for the day Ash Kuiper was also in excellent form posting a round of 36 points off a handicap of four, and that was after failing to score on the first hole of his round.

Ash was a two-shot winner in A Grade from Robin Quinn and Lawrey Casey with 34 points apiece with Robin getting the nod for runner up in the countback thanks to an excellent back nine of 20 points.

Thirty four was a popular score with a three way count back required to find the B Grade runner up after Geoff Strachan, Alan Curnow and Ian Scurrah all returned cards with that number with the count back going Strachannie's way.

Another count back was needed to find the ladies' winner with Gill Thorsen getting the better of Jeni Bauerle after they both finished with 36 points.

Ball comp winners were Marie Watt with 35 points, Alan Curnow, Ian Scurrah and Lawrie Casey (34 points) along with Kevin Bauerle and Kerry Kreeck with 33.

Nobby took home the A Grade Nearest the Pin (NTP) ball on the 3rd (the B Grade and Ladies' NTP balls went begging) while Alan Hausler won the voucher on the 15th on his way to making par.

Jeff Carnie posted his best Valley View round of 38 points to win Tuesday's Australia Day event from Pooch McHale with 37 points while Jenni Baurle was the ladies' winner with 33 from Julie Neale with 31.

Gavon Armstrong (36 points), Peter Blackmore (35) and Kevin Bauerle (33) picked up balls in the ball comp and in KB's case he took home two winning the NTP ball on the 3rd.

Our Pennant team remains undefeated after a 3-2 win over Merrigum at home on Sunday.

The winning combinations were David Collins & Dom Cerrone (3&2), Daryl Harrison and Ed McQuienn (big 5&3 winners) and the Kuiper brothers who won 2 up.

Paul Dickens and Mick Gallivan lost their match 4&3 while Pete Blackmore and Lawrie Casey (surprise inclusions in this week's team) lost their match 3&1.

Finally, a belated cheerio to John Burrows who is recovering in Melbourne after recent kidney surgery. I spoke with John on Sunday afternoon and he is travelling very well (touch wood) and is lending a greatly appreciated hand with the editing this column.

Week Ending Sat 6th February 2021

Recently joined member Dylan Gallivan has wasted little time making his mark at Valley View taking out the February Monthly Medal at the weekend.

In only his second competition round after regaining his handicap, and following a six year absence from the game, Dylan made light work of the tricky conditions with the medal winning round of 87-16-71.

The round was also the A Grade winning round with Lawrie Casey taking out his third runner's up trophy in about a month with a round of 84-12-72 pipping Robin Quinn (82-10-72) in a count back.

Some consolation for Robin missing out in the count back though as he took home the ball for the best gross score of the day.

Meanwhile I hear that in addition to ordering Dylan's medal shirt the club is looking at some sort of appropriate bride's maid attire for Case.

Paul Dickens took home the B Grade winner's trophy with 94-21-73 by one shot from Alan Hausler with 93-19-74. Four-point scores on the 18th and second holes were key to Dicko's win, the latter coming after a mighty 280 metre tee shot while his birdie on the 18th was TV golf from tee to hole.

As with Lawrie, Haus took out the runner's up trophy in a count back, the unlucky player being Peter Nelson with 106-32-74. It was very much a case of what might have been for Penguin – an 11 on the par five 18th costing him all kinds of glory but at the same time saving the few members at presentation from a long and uninspiring acceptance speech.

Haus also won the B Grade ball for best gross score.

Helen Armstrong cleaned up in the ladies' comp with a round of 92-22-70 which was both the best nett and best gross score from the ladies' field. Marilyn Ross was the runner up with 98-26-72.

Ball comp winners were Robin Quinn with Nett 72, Pooch McHale (73), Gill Thorsen (73), Penguin (74), Kevin Bauerle (74), Kelly Cheong (74), David Collins (75) and Peter Mangan also with 75 in a count back from a host of others (including yours truly) with 75.

Pooch won the A Grade Nearest the Pin ball on the 3rd, narrowly missing out on dozen jackpot balls, Les Hall won the B Grade NTP ball while Nancy Saunders won both the Ladies NTP ball and the voucher on the fifteenth.

Ian Scurrah was Tuesday's winner with 38 points in a canter from Geoff Strachan with 34.

Pooch and Kelly Cheong won balls with 33 points each while Daryl Harrison won the voucher on the fifteenth.

Our Pennant Team had the week off due to a general bye before the final qualifying round next week at Merrigum

Finally, a follow up to last week's report. It was great to see John Burrows drop into the course just prior to tee off on Saturday looking fit and well and taking a brief time away from his recuperation from recent kidney surgery. Fingers crossed John's recovery continues to go well.

Week ending Sat 20th Feb 2021

A rare phenomenon at Valley View on the weekend with the Match & Handicap team throwing in an unexpected Par event, the first in such occurrence of that format in twelve months if I'm not mistaken.

It came so out of the blue that some of the early morning golfers were spied rewriting their cards after their rounds having marked them with stableford scores.

They weren't the only ones caught off guard with your correspondent being initially mightily impressed by what looked like a score of 44 points on the results sheet as I read it from my phone.

In fact, the score was +4 and belonged to Kelly Cheong who won A Grade with that score off a handicap of eleven.

Kelly finished four shots in front of his nearest rivals in David Collins and Lawrie Casey who both finished with scores of even with the card and David took home the runner's up trophy courtesy of the resultant count back.

Four up was also the winning B Grade score and came from the card of Alan Hausler who seems to be winning quite regularly of late while Geoff Strachan was the runner up with +1.

Of the ladies' Jenni Bauerle adapted to the Par format best posting a score of 3 up and was a comfortable winner from Helen Armstrong with -1. Helen won a three way count back for the runner's up trophy from Nancy Saunders and Marilyn West.

The unsuccessful count back contestants in Lawrie, Nancy and Marilyn took home balls in the ball comp, as did Paul Kuiper and Kevin Bauerle with scores of -1.

Bud Thorsen (A Grade) and Marilyn West won Nearest the Pin trophies on the 3rd, while Ray Brereton won the voucher on the 15th.

A two week break starting with a general bye and followed by last week's lock down, halted the momentum of our undefeated Pennant team and it went down to Kialla 3-2 in Sunday's Semi-Final at Hill Top.

Daryl Harrison and Ed McQuienn got the side off to a good start with a win on the 19th and things looked good when Mick Gallivan and Mick Coyne put us two up with a 3&1 win.

But a 2&1 loss by Ash and Paul Kuiper followed by a 4&2 negative result from the pairing of Lawrie Casey and Peter Blackmore left the team's fate in the hands of Captain David Collins and Dom Cerrone.

In what David described as a five and a half hour "epic" the match was sealed when one of their Kialla opponents, who had had little impact on the match to that point, birdied the 22nd hole with Dom and David only able to come up with a par.

A big thanks to David and the guys who made themselves available to represent the club over the past two months.

Finally, a helpful golfcart etiquette tip for our many golfers that journey the course by cart. Well actually, one of them at least. It's considered best NOT to drive your cart in the line of the (in flight) ball of a fellow golfer. Like a postie on his route the safest path is out of the road of traffic.

Week ending Sat 27th February 2021

The Summer Cup looks to be a race between a handful of golfers after Saturday's third round which produced some very good scores.

In A Grade, a relatively new member in Robin Quinn put together the day's best score of 40 points to take out the winner's trophy from Alan Hausler who finished with 38 points. Haus has been a model of consistency in recent months making the transition into A grade with very little fuss.

In B Grade Rory Kerr played some excellent golf to finish with 38 points and he set up his score with birdies on the par five 5th and 18th holes and tells me he left a very makeable eagle putt short on the 18th.

Rory finished three shots ahead of Alan Curnow and Paul Dickens who both finished with 35 points before Alan took out the count back for the runner's up trophy. More on Dicko's round soon.

The ladies also put together some good scores starting with Wanda Hacon with 39 points and she posted a one shot win from Nancy Saunders with 38.

Ball comp winners were Dylan Gallivan with 37 points, Jenni Bauerle (36), and Pooch McHale, Marilyn Ross, Daryl Harrison, Dicko and Kevin Bauerle all with 35 points.

Pooch claimed the A Grade Nearest the Pin ball on the 3rd and also picked up the dozen jackpot balls he so narrowly missed out on a few weeks back before making his birdie putt. Just!

Marilyn Ross won the ladies' NTP ball but the B Grade NTP ball stayed with the club.

Shirley Soares won the voucher on the 15th with an excellent tee shot on the way to a par.

So, after three rounds the top of the Summer Cup leader board looks like this:

Tom Kerr aggregate 112 points (rounds of 46—32-34)

Daryl Harrison 110 points (37-38-35)

Alan Hausler 104 points (34-32-38)

Kevin Bauerle 103 points (33-35-35)

Rory Kerr 103 points (33-32-38)

In all likelihood this year's Summer Cup winner will come from that list with Tom or Daryl the most likely to take the title – the other three players would need to do something special in next month's final round.

As promised, I return to Paul Dickens' round which featured one of the more outrageous pars seen at Valley View in a long time.

The drama began at the tee of the par four 11th hole when Paul sliced, nay carved, his tee shot all the way across the adjacent 13th fairway into the rough between said fairway and the boundary fence along Curr Road which, initially, his playing partners feared he had reached.

Now what you need to know is that playing safe or taking his medicine is not in Paul's golfing playbook. In fact (and I don't want to *inadvertently* offend him here) it could be said that his ambition often exceeds his ability.

But not on this occasion! Undaunted by the dam and trees menacingly beckoning ahead and hiding the green some 195 metres away, Dicko took his trusty 3 Hybrid and thought to himself “what the hell if Dan Andrews can make it, so can I”. With that he let rip with as pure a sounding golf shot as one will ever hear that cleared the trees and dam with ease and settled cosily in front of the 11th green leaving his playing partners flabbergasted. From there the up and down for par was a piece of cake and was duly completed leaving his playing partners shaking their heads in disbelief. As I said earlier – outrageous!!

Please note last Saturday’s round was the final of the split tee times. This week we revert to the one tee time with assembly at 1130am for tee off at 1215pm.

Tuesday’s comp will also revert to an 1130a assembly for midday tee off.

There will be a stableford book event on Monday (Labour Day) so feel free to organise your own groups for that.

Week ending Sat 6th March 2021

The name "Thorsen" dominated Saturday's Monthly Medal round with both Bud and Gill winners on the day.

Bud won his first Medal shirt in almost four years with the day's best round of 85-15-70 finishing one shot ahead of the day's B Grade winner in Ray Brereton who carded a round of 92-21-71 which also netted Ray the B Grade best gross score trophy.

Ash Kuiper finished a further shot back in the medal hunt with an excellent round of 75-3-72 and took home the A Grade runner's up trophy and best gross score ball for his efforts.

Bud's better half in Gill was a four-shot winner in the ladies' comp with a round of 99-29-70 thanks to a three hole hot spell where she birdied the 13th, 14th and 15th holes (netting four stableford points on each).

In the process Gill also picked up the Nearest the Pin voucher on the 15th with a tremendous tee shot to within half a metre of the cup.

The B Grade and ladies' runners up were Craig Larcombe (93-19-74) and Tracey Wade (91-17-74) respectively.

Ball winners on the day were Mick Gallivan with Nett 73, Peter Mangan (73), Alan Hausler (74), Peter Meighan (75), Leonie McMaster-Smith (75) and Peter Blackmore (75).

Alan Curnow won the A Grade Nearest the Pin ball on the 3rd in his first week at the top level but fair to say that was the highlight of his round with the pressure of being an A Grader getting to him somewhere (mostly everywhere) between the seventh tee and green.

Don Muhleisen won the B Grade NTP ball while the ladies failed to find the green.

Helen Emery won the ladies best gross score ball with a round of 91 in a count back from Tracey Wade.

Pooch McHale was Tuesday's A Grade winner with 37 points in a count back from our Medal winner while Kerry Kreeck took out B Grade with 36 points from John Neale with 34.

Ball winners were Kevin Humbert with 36, Jeff Carnie with 34 and Craig Richardson with 33 in a fly in fly out mission.

On a very windy day the field found the Par three holes tough going and as a result the NTP column on the results sheet was left blank.

Finally, the reporting of Paul Dicken's incredible stroke play in last week's column has made Dicko a multimedia megastar (to quote the late great Lou Richards) with his deeds reported word for word on local radio on Saturday morning. You're welcome Dicko!!

Unfortunately, Paul couldn't conjure up any of that magic in Saturday's round and he could *really* have done with some of it on the 12th where he would need an oxygen tank and wet suit to either play or recover not one, not two but three balls. Needless to say, he didn't par that particular hole.

Week ending Sat 13th March 2021

The Valley View course was at its most difficult for Saturday's Stableford event and as such scoring, with three or four exceptions, was adversely impacted.

After teeing off with the aid of stiff north westerly breeze our golfers were soon battling a howling south westerly gusting up to almost 50km.

As such it was surprising to find not one but three scores on the leader board in the forties with Marlene Topp posting the day's best score of 43 points to take out the ladies' comp by just two shots from Jan McHale with 41.

I'm tipping the Marlene and Jan will find their respective handicaps of 31 and 20 a touch lower for their next rounds.

In B Grade Geoff Strachan would expect to see his handicap reduce also after posting a score of 41 points from a handicap of 21. This, after losing three shots as he posted a winning round of 44 points on the previous Tuesday from a handicap of 24.

Strachannie's score gave him a clear seven shot win from last week's B Grade winner in Ray Brereton with 34 points.

In A Grade Robin Quinn notched up his second win since joining the club with 37 points and he finished a shot ahead of Lawrie Casey with 36 points. Excellent efforts from respective handicaps of 10 & 11 given the conditions.

Robin really cleaned up as he also took the A Grade Nearest the Pin ball and the voucher on the 15th as he made birdie and par on those holes.

Helen Emery was another to finish in front of the handicapper with 38 points and took home a ball in the ball comp along with Helen Armstrong with 36 points, Julie Neale (36), Tom Kerr (35), Pooch McHale (35) and Tracey Wade (35).

Not sure if the windy conditions got to our golfers but there were a couple of odd occurrences during the course of the afternoon with one chap making his way to the 15th green to putt with his putter cover in hand – the only trouble was his putter was NOT inside the cover.

Over in the same corner of the course another member, who has had a fair bit of publicity in the last two weeks, had an airy on the 16th tee missing his ball by a decent margin.

To Tuesday's event and as mentioned earlier Geoff Strachan was a big winner with 44 points, seven shots ahead of his nearest rival in Peter Clapton-Blackmore with 37.

Craig Richardson and Bud Thorsen won balls with 36 points as did Ron Dixon with 34 points.

Pooch won the NTP ball on the 3rd while Jeff "Cobber" Carnie won the voucher on the 15th.

This Saturday marks the official opening of our season with the traditional Pinehurst Medley event.

Gentleman, there are still a couple of ladies looking for partners in the mixed event otherwise find yourself a partner and get along for assembly at 1130am for 1215pm tee off.

Week ending Sat 20th March 2021

An excellent field enjoyed a fine day for Saturday's traditional season opener which, in a pleasing sign for the club, was dominated by new members.

In the main event, the Pinehurst Medley, new member Sally Olle and Daryl Harrison teamed up with great success to take out the first winner's trophy of the new season with a round of 94-24-Nett 70.

They finished narrowly in front of runner's up in Leanne Busch and Robin Quinn (another new member who has quickly made his mark) with a round of 79 - 8 3/8 – Nett 70 5/8.

Taking out balls in the ball comp were:

Mick McAuliffe & (another new member) Vonnie Morris with Nett 72 1/8

Alan Hausler & Trudy Denham 72 7/8

John & Jan McHale 73 4/8

Kevin Humbert & Nancy Saunders 74 1/8

Our socially challenged men contested a Stableford event with the in-form Geoff Strachan winning with 38 points by two shots from perennial runner up in Lawrie Casey with 36 while Ron Dixon (35 points) and Kelly Cheong (34) won balls.

Bud Thorsen and Trudy Denham won the NTP balls on the 3rd while Julie Neale took home the voucher on the 15th.

Peter Mangan has slowly adjusted to his new set of sticks and put them to good use on Tuesday winning the midweek comp with 38 points from John Neale with 35.

David Collins (35 points, John Burrows (33) and Daryl Harrison (33) took home balls in the ball comp while Robin Quinn picked up the Nearest the Pin ball.

Finally, the month of March has gone from bad to worse for a member who has been in the news on these pages regularly over the past few weeks. After it started so promisingly the month has disintegrated to the point where during the week, I received what I thought were pics of the Lochness Monster.

Alas, on closer inspection I realised that the back of the head and golf buggy wheel, floating on the surface of a water hazard on a nearby golf course, belonged to the said Valley View member as he desperately tried to retrieve his sodden golf bag and buggy.

How golfer, bag and buggy came to be heading for Gilligan's Island I'm not sure, but I am reliably informed that his mobile phone was inside the bag as it submerged so if you haven't been able to contact this particular chap this week you will understand why. I just hope that his local mobile phone dealer looks after him with a good deal on a new one.

Week ending Sat 27th March 2021

The 70mm of rain recorded this week and resultant heavy track put a screeching halt on the recent scoring spree in spectacular fashion at the weekend.

Despite an excellent field, not one player could play to or better their handicap with two players recording the day's best score of 35 Stableford points.

The first of those was Peter Mangan who has become a walking billboard for his relatively new golf sticks as he scored another win in A Grade defeating the now perennial bridesmaid in Lawrie Casey in a count back.

Case has lost so many countbacks over the summer that he is questioning his relationship with the members of the Match & Handicap (M&H) team. They are in turn considering a motion at the next M&H meeting to re-name the runner's up trophy in his honour.

In B Grade Ron Dixon was a one-shot winner with 33 points from Johnny Heywood who was on fire early and scored a large proportion of his 32 points on the first six holes of his round.

The ladies also struggled with Helen Emery a comfortable winner with 34 points from Sharon Harrison with 29 points.

The ball comp scores also made for sombre reading starting with Mick Coyne with 34 points, and also featuring Tom Kerr with 33, Peter Noble (32), Mick McAuliffe (31), David Collins (31), Paul Dickens (30), Peter Lyon (30) and Jeff Carnie also with 30 points.

Tom Kerr was the only player to reach the 3rd green, taking out the A Grade Nearest the Pin ball while Mick Gallivan was the winner of the voucher on the 15th hole.

The low scoring meant there was little, if any, movement on the Summer Cup table with Tom Kerr holding his lead to take out the title with a three-round total of 113 points from Daryl Harrison with 110.

Alan Hausler (104), Kevin Bauerle (103), Nobby (102) and Lawrie Casey (102) were the only other players to put together three round totals of better than 100 points.

The heavy rain on Sunday and Monday forced the Grounds Committee to close the course on Tuesday and as a result there was no midweek event.

This Saturday's event is the April Monthly Medal (Stroke) and the duty team is Alan Hausler and Nobby. Assembly is 1130am.

There will be a Stableford "Book" event on Easter Monday so you will need to arrange your own groups for that.

Week ending Sat 3rd April. 2021

With Easter upon us our Match & Handicap team made the wise decision early in the week to postpone the April Medal round until this Saturday.

Having made that call the duty team was kept busy post round with countbacks the order of the day in the substituted Stableford event.

In A Grade Kelly Cheong 's round of 39 points was good enough to get him across the line in the count back from Pete Noble.

It was a mixed bag for both players with Kelly's round featuring two scoreless holes and an eagle on the par four 6th hole allowing him to take home the Miles Gould – Mick Coyne sponsored Eagles Nest.

Meanwhile Nobby looked set for a big score after playing the front nine in one over 37 and going to the tenth tee with 23 Stableford points in the bank before a sixteen point back nine brought him back to the field.

In B Grade it was good to see Wal Tink back in the winner's list with 34 points and he held out Geoff "Squizzy" Squires in the count back.

The ladies' event produced a similar result with Nancy Saunders the winner, also with 34 points and also in a countback, in this case the unlucky player being Marlene Topp.

The ball comp was dominated by A Graders with Bud Thorsen and Alan Hausler taking balls with 38 points as did Mick Coyne (36), Paul Kuiper (36), Dom Cerrone (34) and Pooch McHale (34).

Nearest the Pin ball winners were Rich River's Shaun Ryan (A grade) and Wal Tink (B grade) while Haus picked up the voucher on the 15th with either a very good or very lucky tee shot before holding his nerve to make his birdie putt.

On Tuesday, Peter Mangan backed up his win from the previous Saturday with 38 points and a three shot win from David Collins with 35.

Kerry Kreeck was the B Grade winner with 36 points in a count back from Des Cornwall.

Ball winners were Bud Thorsen with 34 points and Peter Clapton-Blackmore and Ron Dixon with 33 points each.

Jeff Carnie picked up the B Grade Nearest the Pin ball on the 3rd while the voucher on the 15th went Pooch McHale's way.

The subject of this week's Scoop exclusive is Lawrie Casey who, as recently reported has been racking up runner's up trophies at a Collingwood-esque rate. That trend carried over to the Thursday night circuit where he notched up another second place in last Thursday night's season finale.

I can subsequently report that this finally got too much for our intrepid postie who took the weekend off golf to regroup, count his easter eggs and take in a game of footy. Alas there was more bad news for Case with his beloved Saints going down heavily to the unfancied bombers.

I haven't been able to confirm, or discount, rumours that he has subsequently been seen in deep conversation with the bowls captain!

Week ending Sat 10th April 21

Lawrie Casey's sabbatical from golf last weekend proved a masterstroke as he returned rejuvenated at the weekend to take out the April Monthly Medal, ironically in a count back. I guess he who laughs last....!

Lawrie took the medal with an excellent round of 79-11-68 with the unlucky loser of the countback being Pooch McHale who posted the day's best gross score of 77 off a handicap of nine.

It was a very consistent performance from Case with a 40-39 front nine back nine split.

Peter Noble finished a further shot back with a round of 80-11-69 and, after dropping putts from all parts for most of his round, saw his medal chances evaporate with two three putt greens in his last three holes.

The scoring wasn't so hot in B Grade with Ron Dixon posting the winning score of 98-24-74 to claim a two shot win from Geoff Squires with 98-22-76 while Barry Graham won the Best Gross score ball with 96 off the stick.

The ladies were more on the pace and Marie Watt won their comp with 97-27-70 from Gill Thorsen with 100-27-73.

Jenny Bauerle's round of 89 won her the ladies' best gross score ball.

All the ball winner came from A Grade starting with Nobby and he was joined by Paul Kuiper with Nett 71, Peter Mangan (72), Kevin Humbert (73), Alan Hausler and Mick McAulliffe (both with Nett 75).

Kevin Humber (A Grade) and Helen Emery took home nearest the pin balls on the 3rd while Julie Neale won another voucher on the 15th on the way to making parr.

A special event on Sunday with the inaugural Ern Healey Memorial event to recognise the massive contribution Ern made over many years as President, Secretary and in a variety of other posts during his time at the club

The format is a 4 Ball best ball Stableford with assembly at 11am. Inquiries and bookings to Daryl Harrison on 0408 369 705.

This week's Scoop exclusive features Craig Larcombe who became the first golfer at the club to retrieve a ball snaffled by one of the pesky crows that have been lifting from our fairways for months. Larco's ball left the fifth on the beak of the crow but he sensed an opportunity to retrieve his bright orange cherry when the crow landed on a fence post. A hundred metre dash (for want of a better word) saw the ball successfully back in play though it nearly finished Larco who insists his desire to get it back had more to do with the fact his supplier is out orange balls and nothing to do with his wallet.

Week ending Sat 17th April 2021

Saturday's Par event yielded few scores on the positive side of the ledger with only Daryl Harrison and Marlene Topp with pluses at the front of their scores.

Playing off 11 Daryl won A Grade in a canter with +2 from Ash Kuiper who took out the runner's up trophy with -3 in a count back from Graeme Harrison.

Topy was also a clear winner in the ladies' event with 4 up from Jan McHale who also won a count back for runner up with an even par score from Gill Thorsen.

There was more of a contest in B Grade with Kerry Kreeck also finishing square but only had one shot to spare from Craig Larcombe with 1 down.

Ball winners on the day were Gill Thorsen (even) along with Helen Armstrong, Nancy Saunders and Les Hall (all with 2 down).

Helen Armstrong won the Nearest the Pin Voucher on the 15th and Marilyn Ross won the ladies' NTP ball on the 3rd however the men's NTP balls went begging.

A big thanks to Fitzgerald's Farm Fresh Meats who were our generous sponsors this week and our winner's and runner's up will dine very well as a result.

An excellent field turned out on Sunday for the inaugural Ern Healey Memorial 4BBB Stableford event which was won by Paul Newman and Jake Gascoyne with 47 points.

Lee Turner and Andrew Hibbert finished as runner's up with 45 points in a count from Penguin and Tim Nelson.

Nearest the Pin trophies were won by Ash Kuiper (3rd and 15th), Luke Nagle (9th), and Mick Coyne (12).

A big thanks from the club to Daryl Harrison who organised the day. A potential club captain maybe?

Successive double header weekends with the traditional Girgarre RSL Anzac Day event next Sunday. The day features a Stableford event along with a Calloway event for social golfers and kicks off with an 11am assembly for a noon hit off.

Tuesday's winner was Ed McQuienn with 38 points from Kerry Kreeck with 35 points.

Ball winners were: Kevin Humbert (35), Mick McAuliffe (34), Alan Curnow (34) and Des Cornwall (34). Nearest the Pin winners were Peter Blackmore on the 3rd and Mick McAuliffe on the 15th.

No time for a Scoop exclusive this week, instead I need to issue an apology to Debonair David Collins for last week failing to report his win on Tuesday 6th April with a massive 43 points. To make the non reporting of the win all the more disappointing for David was that he finished five shots ahead of the runner up, his good friend, Peter Noble with 38 points.

Week ending Sat 24th April 2021

Due to unforeseen circumstances Saturday's scheduled Ky Vet Clinic Black Sock event was postponed and will be rescheduled for a later date although the scheduled Stableford round remained.

There were some good scores at the top of the leader board too with Craig Larcombe posting the day's best round of points to finish one shot clear of Alan Hausler and John McHale with 39 points.

Larco's score could have been really big if not for an eight hole stretch that yielded a four putt and four three putt greens. Talk about the yips And Larco such a reliable putter too!!

Haus nudged out Pooch in a count back for the runner up voucher and, in a very profitable day, Haus also took home the voucher on the 15th with a very good tee shot before nailing his birdie putt.

Pooch had to settle for a ball in the ball comp though a score of 39 points off a handicap of eight is nothing to sneeze at.

Other ball winners were Kevin Bauerle with 38 points, Ian Rathjen with 35 and Mick Gallivan, also with 35 points.

Helen Armstrong was a three shot winner in the ladies' event with 34 points while Shirley Soares round out a bad day, count back wise, for the McHale family taking out the runner's up trophy with 31 points in a count back from Jan.

On Tuesday Ian Scurrah posted the best round with 37 points and won by one point from Ron Dixon with 36.

Ball winners were Peter Clapton-Blackmore with 34, Debonair David Collins (34) and Daryl Harrison with 33.

Ian also won the Nearest the Pin ball on the 3rd while Nobby took way the voucher on the 15th hole.

This Saturday's event will be stroke with the May Monthly Medal up for grabs.

Week ending Sat 1st May 2021

It's official, Lawrie Casey has finally put aside his count back curse taking out his second successive monthly medal at the weekend and, as he did in April, he did it via a count back with the unlucky runner up this month being Miles Gould.

Lawrie took home the May medal with a round of 80-10-70 while Miles posted the excellent score of 75-5-70.

An almost faultless back nine of 38 got Lawrie across the line with the defining moment being his eagle two on the par four 13th, pitching in from around 100m after yet another very accurate tee shot.

Miles had (unbeknown to him at the time) his chance to claim the medal just missing a putt on the 18th hole from about metre that would have given him a round of Nett 69.

A count back was also needed to find the B Grade winner with John Neale taking home the winner's trophy with a round of 95-20-75 in a count back from Geoff "Squizzy" Squires who carded a round of 96-21-75.

Jenni Bauerle won the ladies event with 89-12-77 while Helen Armstrong won yet another countback with 98-20-78 from Leonie McMaster-Smith (113-35-78) for the runner's up trophy.

While Miles missed out on the medal, he won the A Grade Nearest the Pin (NTP) ball on the third, the ball for best gross score and the voucher on the 15th. Not a bad day's work.

Nails and Jenni Bauerle added the B Grade and ladies' best gross score balls to their winner's trophies while balls in the ball comp went to Dom Cerrone (Nett 75), Peter Mangan (75), Peter Blackmore (75), Nobby (76) and John McHale with Nett 76.

Naga winner Paul Dickens 113-20-93 was channelling Greg Chappell after his round telling me he thought he had hit the ball all right but not scoring so well.

Peter Blackmore notched up another win on Tuesday with 38 points and a one shot margin from Les Hall with 37 points.

Ball winners were Ian Scurrah and Daryl Harrison, each with 36 points and our monthly medallist with 35.

Robin Quinn won the NTP ball on the 3rd and Ron Dixon took home the voucher on the 15th.

Week ending Sat 8th May 2021

A glorious day greeted our golfers for Saturday's round in what traditionally (pre-covid) would have been the final round of our club championships.

But with those now a spring fixture our golfers competed in a Stableford event sponsored by Kerr's Amcal Pharmacy.

The conditions certainly brought out the best in Peter Noble who (playing off a handicap of 11) has suffered a lull in form the past couple of weeks but he bounced back on Saturday taking out A Grade with 39 points by one shot from Bud Thorsen with 38.

Asked by this reporter what was the feature of his round Nobby responded modestly "nothing really".

In B Grade the old silver fox, Les Hall, left the field in his wake knocking up 37 points and he scored a comfortable win from Alan Curnow and Craig Larcombe with 33 points each with Alan getting the nod for the runner's up trophy in a very tight and lengthy count back process.

In the ladies' comp Lee-Anne Medhurst, from Blue Lake Club Mt Gambier, took a shine to the course on her first sighting and duly took home the winner's trophy with 39 points from a handicap of 27.

As with Hally, Lee-Anne had shots to spare with Helen Armstrong taking out the runner's up trophy with 34 points in a count back from Marie Watt.

To the ball comp and Mick Gallivan, Steve Usher and Peter Mangan all took home balls with 36 points along with Peter Blackmore and Marie Watt with 34 points.

Bud Thorsen took home the A Grade Nearest the Pin ball on the 3rd with a glorious tee shot that also netted him a dozen jackpot balls but alas his putt was a little less impressive and he had to settle for par missing his birdie putt.

John Burrows took home the NTP ball for B Grade while none of the ladies could find the green leaving their NTP ball with the club.

Jennie Bauerle won the voucher on the 15th with an excellent tee shot.

Miles Gould picked up the NAGA which some put down to the disappointment of narrowly missing last week's medal. The more likely explanation is that it was a natural reaction to the trauma of playing with Steve Usher who made a much anticipated return to the fairways.

A big thanks to Rory and Clare Kerr and Amcal Pharmacy for their generous sponsorship of the day which was greatly appreciated by both the club and the trophy winners on the day.

Tuesday's winner was Geoff Strachan with 35 points from Robin Quinn with 33 in a count back from Des Cornwall and Des Pentreath who took home balls in the ball comp.

Nearest the Pin trophies went to Ian Scurrah (3rd) and Ash Kuiper (voucher on the 15th).

SCOOP

Week ending Sat 15th May 2021

The weather for this week's Stableford round was in stark comparison to last week's ideal conditions with the winter chill that arrived reflected in the scoring on the day with two exceptions.

Gavon Armstrong and Marie Watt shrugged off the winter preview, each posting rounds of 38 Stableford points.

Gavon's round was easily the best of the men and he took out B Grade by three shots from the Old Silver Fox Les Hall who finished with 35 points.

The rest of the men struggled though and Peter Mangan took the honours in A Grade with 33 points from Tom Kerr with 32 points and he got the better of Dom Cerrone in the countback for runner up.

Gavon, Les, Peter and Tom all took home trophies from the day's sponsor in Ky Tyre Service which has been a long and valued contributor to the club and the club extends its thanks for the continued support.

Marie's 38 points naturally got her across the line in the ladies' event with Jenni Bauerle taking home the runner's up trophy with the third best round of the day of 36 points.

Ball comp winners were Julie Neale with 35 points along with Dom Cerrone, Craig Larcombe and Nancy Saunders who all returned cards with 32 points.

Mick Coyne was the only trophy winner on the 3rd hole taking home the A Grade Nearest the Pin ball on his way to a birdie while Robin Quinn played a very good tee shot into the wind on the 15th to set up a neat par and take home the Nearest the Pin voucher on that hole.

Ron Dixon was Tuesday's winner with 36 points from Peter Blackmore with 35 while Mick McAuliffe, Les Hall and Kevin Humbert all won balls with 34 points.

Jeff "Cobba" Carnie made off with the NTP ball on the 3rd while Kelly Cheong picked up the voucher on the fifteenth.

SCOOP 531

Week ending Sat 22nd May 2021

Saturday was a big day for the Thorsen household with both Bud and Gill finding themselves in successful pairings for the Wally Shaw Memorial 4 Ball Aggregate Stableford event.

Gill combined with Marilyn Ross for the day's best aggregate score of 72 points with Marilyn the driving force with 38 points as they took out the ladies' event by two shots from Helen Emery and Robyn Curnow with 70.

Meanwhile Bud and David Collins were combining very well with 35 points each to take out the men's event with an aggregate score of 70 points with the highlight being Bud taking his putting to another level apparently nailing them from all parts.

Robin Quinn, playing in his first Wally Shaw event, and Les Hall finished as runner's up with 67 points while the pairings of Nobby & Harro, the Kuiper brothers (Ash and Paul) and Mick McAuliffe & Tom Kerr took home balls with aggregate scores of 65 points.

Mick was very fortunate to be at golf on Saturday after a late return from the Lockington Tournament on Friday night. The Pres incurred the wrath of Mrs Mac missing a 6pm deadline to be home to go out for dinner after his Google maps took him back to Shepparton via Echuca.

Peter Mangan won the B Grade NTP on the 3rd with the last tee shot of the day as he finished his round with a birdie while Helen Emery took home the ladies' NTP ball with an excellent tee shot that was just outside the mark for a dozen jack pot balls.

On the 15th Bud took the voucher (and I can't use Bud's words here) taking the trophy from Gill's grasp after she had earlier also played a very good tee shot to the same green.

On Tuesday Pooch won with 37 points in a count back from Paul Kuiper while Geoff Strachann (36), Peter Clapton-Blackmore (36), Nobby (34) and Mick McAuliffe (34 points) took home balls.

Paul added the Nearest the Pin ball on the 3rd to his runner-up trophy while the voucher on the 15th went home with Harro.

Saturday's event threw up a rather unusual occurrence with Leonie McMaster-Smith finding the task of extricating herself from a particularly difficult lie a, well a challenge, notching up four air swings in the process. Actually, according to Leonie it was actually five airies ...'the last was an accident'!

I like to think that I have a well-rounded vocabulary but, in this instance, words fail me.

To be fair to Leonie it had been a stressful time with thieves almost making off with her golf cart earlier in the week and on top of that being unable to locate her mobile phone to check a text from one of her golfing friends. I'll let Leonie explain how that one ended!

Week ending Sat 12th June 2021

A herculean effort by a group of almost twenty of our members to clean up the damage caused by Wednesday night's wind storm allowed the already Covid deferred June Monthly Medal round to proceed on Saturday.

Alas, those efforts were not matched by our golfers on the course with a significant number of the field racking up Bradman-esque scores.

One man who DID appreciate the clean-up effort was Peter Clapton-Blackmore who added the June Monthly Medal to his December win with a round of 84-13-71 and he finished three shots ahead of the nearest medal contender in Miles Gould who carded a round of 79-5-74.

Those scores also gave Peter and Miles the placings in A Grade while B Grade was dominated by visitors with Rich River's Ben Carmody posting the day's best nett score of 91-23-68 to take out the B Grade winner's trophy.

Ben had plenty of shots to spare with Hill Top's Fred McMahon finishing as the B Grade runner up with 97-19-78.

The ladies found the going even tougher with Judy Greer taking home their winner's trophy with a round of 101-21-80 and Jan McHale was the runner up with a round of 101-20-81 in a count back from Helen Emery with 96-15-81.

Miles, Ben (B Grade), and Helen won best gross score balls while ball in the ball comp balls went to Paul Newman with Nett 75, Jake Gascoyne (77), Ash Kuiper (77), Paul Kuiper (79) and David Collins (79).

Lawry Casey, looking to become the first man (at least in my 15 years at the club) to claim a hat-trick of medals also took home a ball with a round of Nett 79.

On the Par three holes Ash Kuiper won the voucher on the 15th while Gavon Armstrong and Les Hall won the Nearest the A & B Grade Nearest the Pin balls on the third.

Week ending Sat 19th June 2021

Scoring was on the low side again for Saturday's Ky Hire Stableford event with only one player playing to better than his handicap with Mick Gallivan posting the day's best score of 38 points.

That gave Mick a comfortable four shot win in A Grade from Kevin Bauerle who finished with 34 points.

Helen Armstrong won the ladies' comp with 32 points in a count back from Julie Neale.

The less said about the B Grade scores the better with Craig Larcombe's "shocker" (his words) round of 29 points good enough to get him the winner's trophy by one point from Geoff Strachan with 28.

Balls in the ball comp went to Steve Usher with 33 points, Alan Hausler (32), Peter Blackmore (32), Jan McHale (30) and Nancy Saunders (30).

Peter Noble (A Grade Nearest the Pin) and Alan Curnow with the voucher on the 15th were the only players to have any success on the par three holes.

A big thanks to Andrew and Melissa Porch and the team at Ky Hire for their generous sponsorship of this week's event.

The winter pennant season kicked off on Sunday with our Division 3 team starting the year with a 3-2 win against Mooroopna at Hill Top.

Mick Gallivan (5&4) and Tom Kerr (5&3) got the ball rolling with good wins and Ash Kuiper sealed the result with a win on the 19th hole.

Ed McQuienn went down on the 19th while skipper Miles Gould lost one down in a very even team effort.

The Division 4 team didn't start its campaign so well coming away with a 4-1 loss against Mooroopna at Cobram.

David Collins was the only winner on the day taking his match 1 up, while Dom Cerrone (3&1), Gavon Armstrong (3&2), Peter Blackmore (2&1) and Paul Dickens (7&6) all went down in their matches.

Just a reminder to our members and readers that if you miss your copy of the Free Press you can always catch up with the results on our Facebook page and Web site.

Week ending Sat 26th June 2021

The heavy conditions had little impact on the scoring in Saturday's Isaac Family 4 Ball Par qualifier with Barry Scott teaming with a back in form Paul Dickens for an excellent score of 5 up.

That gave them a two-shot win in the qualifier from the big hitting Tom Kerr and (not so big hitting) Lawry Casey who took out the runner's up trophy for the day with -3 in a count back from Mick Gallivan and Johnny Heywood.

The dynamic duo of Pooch McHale and Kevin Bauerle were the fourth group to qualify with a score of +2.

It was a good day for Pooch who took home his second haul of jackpot balls on the par 3 third in the space of a couple of months on his way to a birdie.

Pooch was the only player to have success on the par three holes with the other Nearest the Pin balls and the voucher on the 15th going begging.

Paul and Barry will play Pooch and KB in the second round while Tom and Lawry will take on Mick and Johnny for a place in the final which needs to be completed by 31 August.

Meanwhile the ladies took part in a Stableford event with Helen Emery a comfortable winner with 32 points off a handicap of 16 from Jan McHale who took the runner's up trophy with 26 points in a count back from Marie Watt.

To Pennant golf and both of our teams recorded t=3-2 wins on Sunday.

Our Division 3 team defeated Hill Top at Tocumwal while the Division 4 team was too good for Shepparton at Kialla;

The match results are as follows:

Division 3

Mick Gallivan lost 5&4

Daryl Harrison won 5&4

Tom Kerr won 6&4

Ed McQuienn won 2&1

Miles Gould lost 3&1

Division 4

Peter Blackmore won 5&3

Dom Cerrone won on the 19th

Paul Kuiper won 2 up

Peter Mangan lost 4&3

David Collins lost 3&2

SCOOP

Week ending Sat 3rd July 2021

The prevailing heavy conditions have really put the brakes on the scoring at Valley View in recent weeks. That or the need to be on guard for polar bears has become too much for our members.

Either way the trend continued in Saturday's Medal round with the July shirt going down to a count back between three golfers with scores of Nett 76.

Yes Ripley, Nett 76 with the three men to record that score being John McHale (86-10-76), Gavon Armstrong (95-19-76) and Craig Larcombe (96-20-76).

Ultimately Larco's back nine Nett score of 37 got him across the line in the count back by one shot from Pooch, who missed yet another medal in a count back, and Gavon who was a couple of shots further back in the count back.

Incredibly Larco started his round with five consecutive double bogeys before turning things around on the back nine and then crucially chipping in for birdie on the 3rd hole, the second last of his round.

A luckless Pooch had the medal in his keeping before losing his drive in a tree on his final hole, effectively costing him two shots. The A Grade winner's voucher and the best gross score ball a reward for his excellent round.

Meanwhile Gavon took home the B Grade runner's up trophy while the very consistent Lawrie Casey was the A Grade runner up with a round of 87-9-78.

Ball winners were Paul Dickens with Nett 78, Graeme Harrison (78) and Alan Curnow (79).

Best Gross score balls went to Pooch for his round of 76 and Harro with 95 off the stick.

Harro also took home the B Grade Nearest the Pin Ball on the 3rd, the only NTP trophy claimed on the day.

Our Pennant teams both went down on Sunday with the Division 3 team losing 4-1 to Shepparton at Shepparton while the Division 4 team went down 5-0 to Kialla at Mooroopna though a closer inspection of the results (see below) shows that with luck the Div 4 could have won 3-2.

Division 3 (lost to Shepparton 4-1)

Mick Gallivan lost on 1st playoff hole

Daryl Harrison lost 3&1

Mick Coyne lost 1 down

Tom Kerr won 3&1

Miles Gould lost 4&3

Division 4 (lost to Kialla 5-0)

Dom Cerrone lost on 1st playoff hole

Paul Kuiper lost on 5th playoff hole

David Collins lost 1 down

Peter Blackmore lost 4&3

Peter Mangan lost 3&2

Week ending Sat 10th July 2021

A touch of sunshine was just the tonic to improve the mindset and score cards of our golfers in Saturday's Stableford event.

Robin Quinn chalked up his second A Grade win in recent times with 37 points and he finished with a comfortable three-point buffer from Steve Usher with 34.

In B Grade the club's resident fashion guru Graeme Harrison put together a very consistent round of ball striking to take home the winner's trophy with 36 points from Craig Larcombe with 34.

Ash Barty's Wimbledon triumph wasn't the only breakthrough win in the sporting world at the weekend with Vonda Morris chalking up her first competition win in the ladies' event with 36 points. Helen Armstrong took home the runner's up trophy with 34 points.

Jan McHale with 33 points led the list of ball comp winners, a list that also included Helen Emery (33), David Collins (32), Gavon Armstrong (32), Peter Blackmore (32) and Pooch McHale (32).

Pooch and Gavon also won the Nearest the Pin balls on the 3rd while Steve Usher won the voucher on the 15th and provided a detailed oratory on the shot AND the putt that delivered his birdie. I hear Steve is available as an MC for weddings and the like But frankly I wouldn't recommend him.

Pooch followed up his A Grade win from the previous Saturday by taking home last Tuesday's comp with 36 points from Daryl Harrison with 31 points. Pooch also won the NTP voucher on the 15th while Kevin Bauerle and Alan Curnow won balls with 30 points.

Sunday's Pennant results are as follows:

Division 3: Valley View d Tocumwal 3-2

Mick Gallivan lost on 1st playoff hole

Daryl Harrison lost 2&1

Tom Kerr won 5&4

Ed McQuienn won 3&2

Ash Kuiper won 4&3

Division 4: Valley View d Hill Top 3-2

Paul Dickens won 2&1

Dom Cerrone won 2&1

Gavon Armstrong won 1 up

Peter Blackmore lost 1 down

David Collins lost on 2nd playoff hole

A win for the Div 3 team in next week's final round will ensure it of a spot in the final however the Div 4 team will need to win well and have lots of luck to make the play off.

Week ending Sat 14th August 2021

Mick Gallivan and Gavon Armstrong hit the ground running as our golfers emerged from our latest lockdown for Saturday's Medal round.

Both players carded nett rounds of 73 as they went to a count back to find our August Monthly Medalist.

Playing off a handicap of 13 Mick had a blistering front nine of 39 off the stick on the way to a round of 86-13-73 which was ultimately good enough to A grade.

Unfortunately, his back nine of 47 would come back to haunt him in the count back with Gavon's front nine back nine split of 45-48 taking him to his first monthly medal shirt since July 2013 with round 93-20-73.

Lawrie Casey found himself in familiar territory as the A Grade runner up with a round of 84-9-75 while Graeme Harrison was the B Grade runner up with 91-17-74 and he also took home the B Grade Best Gross score ball.

Meanwhile the ladies did their own thing playing a stableford round which was won by Judy Greer with 33 points from Helen Emery who won the runner's up trophy with 32 points in a count back from Helen Armstrong.

Ball comp winners for the men were Gordon Mackay with Nett 74, Kevin Bauerle, Miles Gould, Paul Dickens, Craig Larcombe (all Nett 76) and Bud Thorsen with Nett 77.

Miles won the Best Gross score ball for his round of 80 off the stick, Alan Hausler won the B Grade NTP ball on the 3rd (the only player to find the 3rd green all day) while Ash Kuiper took home the voucher on the 15th.

A good turnout on Tuesday meant that there were two grades in play with Daryl Harrison taking out A Grade with 34 points from Peter Noble with 31.

Harro won B Grade with 35 points from Alan Curnow who claimed the runner's up trophy with 33 points in a count back from Geoff Strachan.

Strachannie was joined as a ball comp winner by Kerry Kreeck with 32 and Ed McQuienn with 30 while Paul Kuiper and Harro picked up NTP balls.

Just a little anecdote from Saturday's round which features one of our members who doesn't get out to play all that often and who got a bit confused with the course layout not once but twice firstly, going to the wrong tee to start his round. Fortunately, a cart golfer he was seen scurrying from the 4th tee to his assigned tee (the 6th) at a great rate of knots in time for tee off.

Then later as he seized up his predicament, deep in the trees on the 18th hole he was pleased to see an inviting though not generous gap to the red flag in the distance.

After making an excellent club selection and focusing all his attention on the said flag he then executed a text book recovery shot from his troubled lie that incredibly left his ball within a metre or two of the intended target – Plumb position you might say!

With that, our intrepid friend was back in his cart, chest puffed out and putter at the ready as he sped towards the green focusing now on what would be a triumphant par saving putt.

Alas, as he peered in the rear vision mirror, he could not understand why his playing partners were gathered together in a huddle on the 18th putting surface and showing absolutely zero interest in joining him on the practise green.

Week ending Sat 31st August 2021

After two weeks of lockdown our golfers struggled to shake off some Covid cobwebs in the weekend's Stableford event sponsored by Drummond Golf.

Admittedly, despite the surprisingly fine day, the course (if a race track) would have been rated as heavy at best with only Tom Kerr playing to his handicap on the day.

Tom is the club's form golfer at the moment and he finished with 36 points off a handicap of 10 to take out A Grade by four shots from Mick Gallivan with 32.

In B Grade Tim Nelson, hospitalised midweek with a mystery ailment, was sufficiently recovered by Saturday to win B Grade with 35 points with Alan Curnow the runner up in the distance with 27 points.

Helen Emery won the ladies' event with 30 points from Jan McHale with 28.

Balls in the ball comp went to Pooch McHale with 31 points, Alan Hausler (31), David Collins (31), Kevin Bauerle (30), Rod Breen (29), Paul Kuiper (29) and Bud Thorsen (also with 29).

Not one player in the field could find the 3rd green from the tee leaving the NTP balls on that hole with the club while Clare Kerr played an excellent tee shot to the 15th hole to win the voucher. The subsequent par also netted her four stableford points if you don't mind.

A big thanks to Lincoln Ferarri and the team at Drummond Golf Shepparton for the generous sponsorship of this week's event.

Just an update on the pennant season; with play suspended for the last two weeks due to the Covid lockdown, the GVDGA awarded the pennant flags to the teams occupying the top spots after four rounds and while I don't have the details of which teams were successful, I can confirm that the two Valley View teams missed out.

A big thanks from the club to Miles and David (as captains) and the players that took the time to make themselves available to represent the club.

Finally, a cheerio to former member and club sponsor Craig Richardson who is resting up after successful heart surgery recently.

Scoop

Week ending Sat 23rd of October 2021

A good field of eager golfers emerged from the ten-week Covid enforced ban on competition golf for Saturday's Stableford event (which just proves that the more things change the more they stay the same!!).

Only one golfer could have been said to hit the ground running though; Gavon Armstrong posting the day's best score of 38 points enabling him to collect the B Grade winner's trophy by three shots from Alan Curnow with 35 points.

It was a tight contest at the top of the leader board in A Grade with a four way count back leaving Peter Mangan as the winner from Ed McQuienn, Kelly Cheong and Peter Noble all of whom posted 35 points.

The number 35 dominated the Jack Bond Build Pro scoreboard with Jan McHale winning the ladies' comp in a count back from Julie Neale after they also returned cards with 35 points.

Aside from the aforementioned Kelly and Nobby other ball comp winners were Rory Kerr, Daryl Harrison, Graeme Harrison, Alan Hausler, Geoff Strachan and Sharon Harrison all with 34 points.

Nearest the Pin trophies on the third went to Steve Hammond (A Grade) and Ray Brereton (B) while Des Pentreath took on the voucher on the fifteenth.

With the ban on competition golf being lifted Saturday golf has moved back to a shot gun start with assembly and registration at 1130am for a 1215pm tee off. If you can't make it by 1130am please give the office a call to let the duty team know you are coming.

At this stage Tuesday golf will remain at 1030am for 11am hit off and don't forget the Thursday night nine-hole event which hits off at 530pm and culminates with Lawrie's quiz.

The information I have from the Pres is that players of all vaccination statuses can play but you need to be double vaccinated to enjoy our clubhouse activities. Please direct queries on this matter to President Mick on 0418 510 201.

Finally, on a sad note since my last report the club lost a former President and very popular member in John Flett.

Fletty was a regular monthly medal winner and didn't mind throwing in a joke or two during an idle moment of play. He will be greatly missed and the club extends its sincerest condolences to Vy and the Flett family.

Week ending Sat 30th October 2021

A magnificent spring day greeted our golfers on Saturday afternoon as they returned to a 1215pm shotgun start with this week's magic number being 37 – the winning score in all three grades.

In A Grade, and playing off a handicap of nine, our resident quizmaster Lawrie Emdur Casey managed to get past his well-earned bridesmaid reputation to post 37 points to take victory by two points from President Mick McAuliffe, Peter Noble, Mick Gallivan and Mick Coyne.

They all posted scores of 35 points with Mick Mac clinching the runner's up trophy after a very messy count back.

Aside from his lucrative careers as a postie and quiz master Lawrie is also a very good judge of cricket talent and he has suggested to me more than once in recent weeks that a senior Australian player might be just about done.

In B Grade, Rich River's Andrew Marr made the most of his visit, posting 37 points and a one-shot win from Trevor Whithall with 36.

Helen Emery also carded 37 points and that won her the Ladies winner's trophy from Bev Lyon with 34 points while Wanda Hacon took home the Ladies nearest the pin ball on the third hole.

The name of the A Grade nearest the pin winner does not appear on the results sheet though it may have been Lawrie Casey who hit a very good tee shot on that hole on the way to parring it.

Ball winners were the unlucky participants in the A Grade count back (Nobby, Mick Gallivan and Mick Coyne), along with Ray Brereton (also 35 points) and Ian Scurrah, Dom Cerrone, John or Jan McHale, Vonnie Morris and Peter Mangan all with 34 points.

Mick Gallivan picked up the voucher on the 15th for nearest the pin.

A five-way count back was required to find Tuesday's winner with Brendon Cornwall taking the voucher with 38 points from runner up, Geoff Squires, and ball winners in Pooch McHale, Robin Quinn and Peter Mangan.

Some consolation for Mango who took home the NTP ball on the 3rd and Pooch who won the voucher on the 15th hole.

This Saturday and Sunday will feature the first two rounds of the club championships with tee off from the first tee on each day commencing from 11am to 12pm.

Week ending Sat 6th Nov 2021

Reigning Club Champion Ash Kuiper has a third title in four years firmly within his grasp after an excellent first round of 76 in Saturday's first round.

He backed that up with a solid round of 81 on Sunday for a two-round gross total of 157 with his nearest challenger, Mick McAuliffe, five shots back after posting rounds of 81 on both days of the weekend.

Dylan Gallivan, contesting his first Valley View Club championships, is another two shots back with rounds of 83 and 81 (164) while Ed McQuienn rounds out the top four with a two-round total of 165 after rounds of 82 and 83.

The top four in the A Grade Nett event are Mick McAuliffe with a two round Nett score of 142, Graeme Harrison (144), Dylan Gallivan (146) and Ash Kuiper (147).

In B Grade Johnny Heywood has a first title in his sights with a two round Nett total of 141, with his nearest rival Alan Curnow seven shots back (Nett 148).

Trevor Whithall (Nett 157) and Paul Dickens (161) complete the top four but look to be too far back to chase both Johnny and Alan down.

Johnny's two round Nett score of 141 was the best of the weekend and wins him the Kyabram Showcase Jeweller's watch for that achievement and capped off a great weekend for Johnny after he won the Monthly Medal on Saturday with an excellent round of 90-22-68.

Johnny took home the November Medal shirt by two shots from the day's A Grade winner Mick McAuliffe (81-10-71) who beat Ash Kuiper (76-5-71) for the chocolates in A Grade via a count back.

Johnny's round was also the best gross score in B Grade and he backed up on Sunday winning B Grade again with 95-21-74.

Back to Saturday and Ash's first round of 76 was the best gross score of the day and gave him a Nett round of 71 while Alan Curnow's round of 94-22-72 was good enough for him to take the B Grade runner up voucher.

The other big winner on Saturday was our January Medalist in Graeme Harrison who took home the Medalist of the Year title with a round of 87-15-72 by one shot from the March winner Bud Thorsen with Nett 73.

Helen Emery was the ladies' winner with 91-17-74 in a count back from Jan McHale with 95-21-74.

Ball comp winners were: Harro (Nett 72), Pooch McHale (72), Bud Thorsen (73), Dean Hubble (73), Paul Kuiper (74), Dylan Gallivan (74), Kevin Humbert (74) and Kevin Bauerle (74).

Harro and Johnny took out the Nearest the Pin balls on the 3rd while Peter Lyon won the voucher on the 15th.

Sunday's A winner was Mick McAuliffe with 81-10-71 from Graeme Harrison who shot 87-15-72 on both days of the weekend while Trevor Whithall won the B Grade runner's up trophy with 93-19-74.

Balls went to Dylan Gallivan with Nett 72, Paul Kuiper (74) and Alan Hausler (75). Kelly Cheong won the voucher on the 15th and Paul Kuiper won the A Grade Nearest the Pin ball on the 3rd.

Next week's field will tee off in a shot gun start with the final group in B Grade teeing off from the first tee followed by final group of four contesting the club championships tee.

Sadly, for the second week running we finish with the news that another club stalwart in Kevin "The Reverend" Powley passing away on 28 October at the grand old age of 95.

The Rev may have been slight in stature but he was a huge personality around the club and has been greatly missed since he gave the game away about four years ago.

Kevin won the Monthly Medal in October 2010 with a round of Nett 63, a figure that has only been equalled twice since.

The club extends its thoughts and sincerest condolences to Val and the Powley family.

Week ending Sat 13th Nov 2021

There were no real shocks in Saturday's final round of the Club Championships with round two leaders in Ash Kuiper (Club Champion) and Johnny Heywood (B Grade) both getting the job done while Mick McAuliffe's absence allowed Dylan Gallivan to take home his first A Grade handicap title.

With 25mm of rain falling in the preceding two days, only one player in Paul Dickens managed to better his handicap in Saturday's round and as such those chasing Ash and Johnny found it hard to make up ground.

With Mick McAuliffe unavailable for the final round Ash effectively started the day with a seven-shot lead over his nearest challenger in Dylan Gallivan.

He extended that to eight shots over the course of his round as took out his third Valley View title with a three-round winning total of 241 while Dylan finished the championships as the runner up with a three round gross score of 249. Ed McQuienn finished a further five shots back with 254.

Dylan did make his Club Championship debut count all the same taking out the A Grade Nett title in a count back from Graeme Harrison after they each finished with three round Nett scores of 222.

Dylan took the title with a superior final round of 85-9-76 while Harro posted a final round of 93-15-78.

In B grade Johnny Heywood was untroubled increasing his seven-shot lead to 12 with a round 99-22-77 to finish with a three-round score of **218** a popular win within the clubhouse for one of the real characters of the club.

Johnny's nearest challenger at the start of the day, Alan Curnow, never really got going on the final day carding a round of 104-22-82 but managed to hang onto the runner's up trophy with an overall tally of 230 by one shot from Paul Dickens with 231.

Dicko make a welcome return to form with an excellent round of 92-23-69 to take out the day's B Grade event from Gavon Armstrong with 94-20-74.

In A Grade Rich River's Ben Carmody (who only a few months ago was playing off a handicap of 23) won with 90-16-74 in a count back from Kelly Cheong with 86-12-74.

Balls for the day went to Bud Thorsen with Nett 75, Dylon Gallivan (77), Peter Noble (77), Daryl Harrison (77) and Ian Rathjen (77) while Alan Curnow won the B Grade NTP on the 3rd and the voucher on the 15th was won by Kevin Humbert.

Tuesday's winner was Daryl Harrison with 39 points from Nobby with 38. Harro (of the Graeme variety) won a ball with 35 points as did Ron Dixon (also 35) and Peter Mangan with 34.

It was big week or two for Daryl squeezing in Tuesday's win in between scaling the coat hanger in Sydney and acing the 5th at Parkland on Thursday.

Finally, with our club championships done and dusted for another year a big thanks from the club to our Watch Sponsor Kyabram Showcase Jewellers as well as the Grounds Staff for the presentation of the course and the Match and Handicap team for the smooth running of the championships.

Week ending Sat 20th Nov 2021

After several weeks of below par numbers there was a surge in scoring in Saturday's Stableford event lead by Debonair David Collins who (playing off a handicap of 14) took home the A Grade winner's trophy with the day's best score of 40 points.

David finished one shot ahead of Kelly Cheong and Peter Mangan who both scored 38 points with Kelly, who is in red hot form at the moment, taking out the count back for runner up.

Mango had to settle for a ball in the ball comp along with Peter Noble with 38 points and Paul Kuiper with 37.

Paul Dickens backed up his Nett 69 from the final round of the championships with another 38 points to take out B Grade from Jeff "Cobba" Carnie with 35 points while Geoff Squires (34) and Gavon Armstrong (34) took home balls from the ball comp.

Helen Emery rounded out the excellent scoring with 39 points and a four-shot win in the ladies' event from Leonie McMaster-Smith with 35 points while Helen Armstrong took the last ball in the ball comp with 34 points.

Julie Neale won the voucher for Nearest the Pin on the 15th while the Nearest the Pin trophies on the 3rd went to Kevin Humbert (A Grade), Alan Curnow (B) and Clare Kerr.

Alan actually went within centimetres of winning a dozen jackpot balls (just outside the 1.5m range from the pin) with his first shot of the way on the way to making a birdie.

While all this was going on, the final of the Isaac 4 Ball Match Play final was being played and in very tight match Tom Kerr and Lawrie Casey took out the title against Pooch McHale and Kevin Bauerle on the first playoff hole.

The club extends its sincerest thanks to the Isaac family and Albion Motors for their long-standing support of this honour board event.

Brendan Cardwell was Tuesday's winner with 39 points while Pooch took the runner's up trophy with 35 points in a countback from KB as they did their best to tune up for the Isaac final.

Ball winners were KB with his 35 points along with Alan Curnow with 33 and Nobby with 32.

Week ending Sat 27th November 2021

Our members seemed unphased by the prospect of our first Par event in well over 12 months at the weekend with some very good scores posted.

Barry Scott and Gill Thorsen posted the day's best rounds of 5 up to take out B Grade and the ladies' event respectively while Peter Noble (our club's biggest, nay only, Par advocate) continued his recent form surge taking out A Grade with a score of 2 up.

It was only a few weeks ago that Nobby was in despair over his golf game but a subtle change to his stance has seen him take his game to a new level off his handicap of twelve.

Meanwhile Gavon and Helen Armstrong shared the bragging rights in the Armstrong house after they both posted +3 to take out the runner's up trophy in B Grade and the ladies.

Bud Thorsen couldn't quite match Gill's score but his round of 1 up enabled him to clinch the A Grade runner's up trophy in a count back from David Collins who settled for a ball in the ball comp.

Other ball comp winners were Jeff Carnie (+1), Ron Dixon (+1), Ian Rathjen (+1), Robin Quinn (square) and Paul Kuiper also square.

Jeff Carnie was the only player to hit the 3rd green from the tee taking home the B Grade Nearest the Pin ball while Bud Thorsen took home the voucher on the 15th on his way to a par on that hole.

An impressive field turned out for Tuesday's Stableford comp with enough players for two grades and the scores were equally impressive.

Gordon Mackay took out A Grade with 41 points off a handicap of 14 while Nobby started the week well with 40 points to take out the runner's up trophy.

Des Cornwall is fast becoming a Tuesday specialist and he put together a round of 42 points to take out B Grade from Geoff Strachan with 38 points.

Hard earned balls went the way of Dean Hubble (39 points), Daryl Harrison (38), Kelly Cheong (37) and Paul Kuiper (37) while Gary Jury claimed the voucher on the 15th for Nearest the Pin.

This Saturday's event is the December Monthly Medal and traditionally it is at this time that we start the split tee of times.

However, with Saturday's forecast (as of Sunday), a pleasant 27 degrees the Captain advises me that we will be sticking with the 1130am assembly for 1215pm tee off until the New Year unless the weather really heats up.

Week ending Sat 4th Dec 2021

Geoff Squires turned back the clock on Saturday to take out the December Monthly Medal by one shot in a popular win within the club house.

An emotional Squizzy told the club house that his round of 94-22-72 had delivered him his first medal win in over forty years (obviously his last win was as a fresh-faced teenager!).

Squizzy also took home the B Grade winner's trophy from Rich River's Andrew Maur who posted a score of 92-20-72, a round that also netted him the B Grade Nearest the Pin trophy.

A fellow Rich River member in Greasie Wallace took out A Grade with 87-12-75 from Alan Hausler with 92-16-76.

Jenny Bauerle was the ladies' winner with 87-13-74 by one shot from Helen Emery with 90-15-75.

Squizzy, Greasie and Jenny also took out the respective best gross score balls.

It's rare that the medal runner up has to settle for a ball but that was Rory Kerr's reward for finishing one shot behind Squizzy in the medal hunt with Nett 73.

In our best field for some times other ball comp winners were Peter Lyon (Nett 74), Julie Neale (74), Judy Greer (76), Barry Graham (76), Jan McHale (77), Rod Breen (77), Gavon Armstrong (77) and Mick Gallivan (77).

Nearest the Pin trophy winners on the 12th were Ron Dixon and Jenny Bauerle while the voucher on the 15th was claimed by Ray Brereton.

Numbers were also good for Tuesday's comp which yielded sufficient number for two grades for the second successive week.

Kelly Cheong took out A Grade with a super round 43 points (off a handicap of 12) from Peter Blackmore with 41 while Alan Curnow found some form with 38 points to take out B Grade from Brendon Cornwall with 36.

Nobby won the A Grade Nearest the Pin ball, Ray Brereton took the same trophy for B Grade and Pete Blackmore added the voucher on the 15th to his winner's trophy.

Blackers also revealed himself to be a dab hand in the kitchen this week with a very tasty Irish stew on offer for Thursday night's golfers.

Ball winners were Parklands Fay Falla with 36 points, Nobby (36), Dean Hubble 34 and Robin Quinn with 33.

Week ending Sat 12th December 2021

Ron Dixon has made an excellent start to the 2021-2022 Summer Cup with a scorching round of 41 points in perfect conditions on Saturday.

As well as setting the pace in the Summer Cup (played over four rounds with your best three scores counting) Ron also recorded a comfortable four shot win in B Grade from John Neale with 37 points.

Mick Gallivan is next placed on the Round One Summer Cup leader board on the way to a win in A Grade with 38 points from Bud Thorsen with 36.

The ladies' scoring was also very good with Judy Greer posting the second-best round of the day of 39 points which secured her a four-shot win from Helen Armstrong with 35. Helen took the runner's up trophy in a count back from Marlene Topp.

Ball comp winners were Jack Hammond with 36 points along with Robin Quinn (35), Topy (35), David Collins (35), Alan Hausler (34), Alan Curnow (34), Peter Mangan (34) and Rory Kerr (34).

Nearest the Pin ball winners on the 3rd were Robin Quinn (A Grade) and Jeff "Cobba" Carnie (B Grade) with John Neale adding the voucher on the 15th to his runner's up trophy.

There was another good turn out for the mid-comp with Gordon Mackay the A Grade winner with 37 points in a count back from Ash Kuiper who also posted a score off 37 points from a handicap of five after being one over after 13 holes.

Geoff Strachan won B Grade with 35 points from Kerry Kreeck with 34.

Ball winners were the very consistent Kelly Cheong with 35 points, the in-form Peter Noble (also with 35) and Pooch with 34 points.

Daryl Harrison won the voucher on the 15th, the only Nearest the Pin trophy claimed on the day.

This week's scheduled event is the McAuliffe Ky Vets Black Sock Day (black socks are not mandatory but strongly recommended).

The format will be Stableford but the early forecast is for a hot one, so stay tuned to your phone for any possible updates regarding tee off times.

Week ending Sat 18th Dec 2021

Even an earlier 930am tee off didn't spare the excellent field that turned out for Saturday's Ky Vet Clinic Stableford event from the first scorcher of our golfing summer with the temperature soaring to 39 degrees by the time the last group had returned to the clubhouse around 130pm.

Interestingly a check of the temp on the BOM website at that time showed the temp at the said 39 degrees with a feel like temperature of around 32 which seemed about as accurate as my putter from close range!

Never the less the scoring was still good at the top of the leader board with Jan McHale posting the day's best score of 40 points (from a handicap of 18) to take out the ladies' comp from Jenni Bauerle with 35. Judy Greer picked up the Nearest the Pin (NTP) trophy on the 3rd hole.

Paul Kuiper, playing off 16, was the best of the men with 38 points taking out A grade by one shot from David Collins and Kevin Bauerle with 37 points with David taking out the count back for runner up.

It was still a good day for KB though as he took home trophies for NTP in A Grade on the 3rd and the 12th as well as a ball in the ball comp.

In B Grade Jeff "Cobba" Carnie had his alarm clock set to make the trip from Lockington for the early start and was unbothered by the heat (an old cricketer you see) on the way to a win in B Grade with 37 points.

"Cobba" finished a shot ahead of Ray Brereton and Geoff Strachan with 36 points, Ray getting the better of the count back for runner up.

Rory Kerr and (3rd) and Paul Dickens (12th) took out the B Grade NTP trophies.

Ball comp winners were KB and Strachannie as well as Kevin Humbert (35 points), Mick McAuliffe (35), Rod Breen (34), Geoff Squires (34) and Rory Kerr (34) while Andrew McAuliffe won the NTP trophy on the 15th as he made par on that hole.

A big thanks to Mick McAuliffe and the team at Ky Vet Clinic for their generous support over a very long time with the best guess being that the McAuliffe family has been sponsoring this event for some 40 to 50 years!!!

Peter Mangan was Tuesday's winner with 38 points and finished two shots clear of Des Pentreath who took the runner's up trophy with 36 points in a three-way count back from Gordon Mackay and Kevin Humbert.

Gordon and Kevin took home balls in the ball comp as did Des Cornwall with 35 points and Lindsay Tatterson won the ball for Nearest the Pin on the 3rd hole.

There will be no golf next Saturday, being Christmas day and the following Saturday will be a book event (being New Year's Day) so if you wish to play you will need to organise your own groups.

From Saturday 8th January we will revert to two tee times with 8am assembly for 830am for the early risers and the usual 1130am assembly for the afternoon golfers.

The Tuesday comp will go to a 9am assembly for 930am hit off from Tuesday 28th December.

On behalf of the Club, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our members and Free Press readers a Very Merry Christmas and as safe and prosperous New Year.

