



Monday 5 November

Your "Wake Up!" Call



FIRING A FEW ROCKETS

On the day we salute ancient anarchic acts and celebrate with soaring skyrockets and blazing bonfires, our mind is somehow drawn to the little bushfires that seem to spontaneously combust within our club. Stirred by inflammatory outcries and rumours of dire deeds on the part of various vaguely identified villains, these potentially destructive conflagrations leave many of us yearning for simpler days.

We suppose that such irritations are common to all clubs and we probably endure no more than our fair share of them. Sometimes even, they are necessary to ensure we adhere to the common good – but quite often they're more a matter of opinion becoming fact. Opinions, as persuasively presented as they may be, are simply that – opinions. They can have a hint of fact in them – and usually do – but unless they're the 100% real deal they're really just what our good mate Donald might choose to call "fake facts". They can make for a good, full-blooded debate and we're all wont to leap in with our own "facts" that we dogmatically throw into the mix, often to sublimate fairness beneath a deluge of majority opinion.

So what's the point of this rambling discourse? Mainly that debate is good and healthy but declarations can be dangerous. And equally dangerous is to quote protocols and practices from a chosen previous year – because if one chooses to look at other years, contradictory protocols and practices may well be unearthed and "fake facts" get faker by the minute.

While we live in a reasonably benign democracy, the majority is not always right and sometimes minority views are righter than right (as our other good mate Winston would assert). So let's have comments, let's have viewpoints, let's even have a few facts if they're out there. But let's have them delivered with a degree of humour and goodwill and leave the blow-ups to anachronistic anarchists like Guy Fawkes (always bearing in mind that his gunpowder plot was a bit of a fizzer).

MEN'S STROKEPLAY CHAMPIONS EMERGE

This year we attracted good entries and retained good playing numbers through our various divisions. We always get the odd dropout, for whatever reason, but this year has been notable for the numbers who persisted, with varying degrees of success, through all 4 rounds. Our Strokeplay Championships are our premier event on our Club Trophy calendar and we congratulate our winners:

SENIOR CHAMPION: Scott Wightman. Runner-up: Lee Newman

INTERMEDIATE CHAMPION: Geoff Finlay. Runner-up: Hira Wynyard

JUNIOR CHAMPION: Julian Rous. Runner-up: Ray McIntyre

D GRADE CHAMPION: Ray Hutchinson. Runner-up: Ngaro Raharaha.

Our winners now have the opportunity to represent our club at the Northland Champ of Champs at Hikurangi on Sunday 25 November. Our Match Committee will contact you to confirm your entry in this event.

AND NOW, MATCHPLAY CHAMPS BEGIN ...

A draw has been drafted for all divisions, with the first round to be played on or before 17 November. The key words here are "on or before". If, through the first 3 rounds, you and your drawn opponent agree, you can play your match on an earlier day – but you cannot play it after the stated date. Those who make the Final round will be required to play that match on the stated date of Saturday 8 December as this is our designated Finals Day. We will enter tee times, as per the draw, on the date to be played by and just ask that you let the Golf Shop if you're playing at some other time. Also, please ensure results are entered on the board outside the Golf Shop and in the clubhouse foyer.

Please note that you play in divisions but there are handicaps in this event. Each match is played off the stick. If you have the time, have a browse through Rule 2: "Match Play" as there are some particular aspects you need to know and understand.

MELBOURNE CUP ON OUR BIG SCREEN

Tuesday 6 November is the day the world stops to watch the running of the Melbourne Cup. And you have the opportunity to watch it in style in the clubhouse. Our day starts at midday with a few bubbles and a few nibbles, then 9 holes of golf will lead you through to the Big Race. Lots of fun, a bit of luck – and who knows? – you could be onto a winner. Check in at midday, pay your \$20 which covers pretty well everything and have a brilliant time.

**WE HAVE ONE OF OUR CART FLEET STILL FOR SALE
– SEE BRAD FOR DETAILS**

NEW RULES AND WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Ernest and Len have been assiduously study the new Rules of Golf that come into play from 1 January 2019. To help you get our head around these they are speaking to each of our regular groups and handing out copies of the new books, now entitled "Player's Edition of the Rules of Golf". These have a new format and are "an abridged version of the Rules of Golf that is written with a focus on you, the golfer". We also plan an evening or two for those who don't play in our regular groups and we'll let you know when Ernest and Len can fit these into their busy calendars.

Saddle Up!



Melbourne Cup

TUESDAY 6 NOV 2018

Festivities from Midday

(Lunch, 9 holes of golf, maybe a quiet little drink)

then a Clubhouse Carnival
as we build up to the Big Race!

\$20 per player

Get your name on the start sheet in the Golf Shop!



MANGAWHAI
GOLF CLUB

Wilkinson Cup

MIXED PAIRS



SUNDAY 11 NOVEMBER

OPEN TO ALL MEMBER CATEGORIES — NO VISITORS

COMBINED STABLEFORD

**\$10 PER PAIR ENTRY FEE
(INCLUDES TWOS)**

**SHOTGUN START @ 10AM
CARDS IN BY 9.15AM**

ENTER YOUR PAIR'S NAMES ON SHEET IN GOLF SHOP
... or our Lonely Hearts Club Ladies will help you find a friend.

DON'T YOU LOVE SURPRISES?

With Christmas looming fast, we thought it appropriate to remind you of why it truly can be better than to receive: On her birthday, Diane was delighted to have her grandchildren arrive with surprise presents. Her 8-year-old granddaughter handed her a tissue wrapped box that she looked at closely and declared "I bet it's some flowers!" "That's right!" shouted the little girl.

Then her 6-year-old granddaughter presented her another beautifully wrapped gift. She held it up and said "I bet it's some chocolates!" "That's right!" shouted the wee lass.

The next gift was from her 10-year-old grandson. She held up the box and saw that it was leaking. She touched a drop with her finger and tasted it. "Is it wine?" she asked. "No," the boy answered. So she touched another drop to her tongue. "Is it champagne?" she asked. "No," the boy answered. "Then what is it?" she said. "A puppy!"

AGM ON THE HORIZON

Our AGM will now be held on Sunday 9 December, in the Clubhouse. As always, there are various Committee and Board roles to be filled and we invite you to notify Brad of your availability for any position.

(Each appointment comes with a stab-proof vest that is specially reinforced in the back area.)

It's also your opportunity to raise issues that relevant to how our Club operates and how our future looks.

Come along, have your say and make your contribution.

COURSE WORK CONTINUES

Course maintenance an ongoing thing and with spring growth our greenstaff and invaluable volunteers have plenty on their plate. You may have noticed – some with great pleasure – that much of the manuka has been cleared in front of the 13th tee. There's still a bit of tidying up to be done but once it's all sorted you can top your ball with impunity and wander down the hill to chip your second onto the green. Similar work is being done around the 4th tee, ensuring those playing off the Red and White tees that their view of the green is not obscured by growing trees. It is also proposed to remove some of the trees that line the view from the Blue tee. This will be fairly minor, seeking to preserve the ability to play a shot at the green without removing the visual challenges that strike fear into so many of us. Later on the month it is planned to get a digger on course to continue some important work, including digging a hole for a septic tank by the 6th Red tee. All work is done to ensure minimal disruption to your playing rounds while ensuring our course is presented in a condition that is the envy of some many other clubs.

LEANER MEMORIAL FOURSOMES THIS SATURDAY

In place of the well-respected KK's Foursomes, this new event will be in recognition of significant members who are no longer with us. It is open to all members (all genders) and will be played in groups of six over 27 holes. If you wish to play please get your name on the start sheet in the Golf Shop. \$15 per player, organise your own partner.

EDUCATION IS IMPORTANT. BUT GOLF IS IMPORTANTER.