



# RED CLIFFS GOLF CLUB Inc.

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## THE RED CLIFFS 'WHACKER'

ISSUE #12 – MAY 2004

### Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday

The 'Whacker' has turned 1, so to celebrate I thought I would give you a few golf definitions:

**Chip Shot:** A delicate run-up shot with a flat trajectory that gets a player in position for one or more missed putts.

**Provisional ball:** A second back-up shot knocked deep into the woods just in case the first ball shanked into the high rough cannot be found.

Keep swinging & thanks to Sue Poole for the definitions.

### President's Message

Hello and welcome to issue #12 of the Red Cliffs Golf Club's Members Newsletter. As you would all be aware, the Red Cliffs Grass Growers Partnership is up and running, with 19 members taking up partnership parcels, I have been elected as chairman of the board and your Vice-President Andrew Wood has been elected as the R.C.G.C. Inc. representative. Work will commence this week on preparing the area for the installation of the irrigation system. I urge all members to get behind the project and help out in what ever way that they can. This project, if done properly, has the potential to secure the financial future of the club. The success of the venture will depend on the ongoing support of the project by all members, committee and investors.

We staged our Open Tournament over the weekend with great success; Tom and his staff along with Dad's Army are to be congratulated for the way they have prepared the course for the Tournament. Coupled with that was the generous sponsorship by Tasco Inland Oils and in particular our new sponsor in Shane Doherty at the Sunraysia Golf Factory, we advertised prizes to the value of \$2000 and due to Shane's generosity we had over \$2500 in great golfing prizes. On behalf of the committee I would like to sincerely thank both of those sponsors, and congratulations to all of the winners, commiserations to all of the losers, believe me I know exactly how you feel!!!

The Major raffle is underway and has taken a new slant this year, we intend to keep it to member and in-house sales, and the prize is a magnificent set of Golf Clubs, bag and buggy from Sunraysia Golf Factory. We hope to run 3 of these type raffles a year, so far sales of tickets are progressing well, if you haven't got yours or if you can sell a book or two get in touch with Judy Dean, Julie Warne or Lois Briggs at the bar.

The 6<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> Tee area and the 12<sup>th</sup> green are under reconstruction and both projects have been fully funded by other means and are not being funded from general revenue.

The Community Health "Charity Day" an Ambrose in fours hosted by the lovely Jill Gleeson was a very successful day, the organisers were suitably impressed with our course and facilities and have indicated that they will be returning again next year.

Our second raffle, the Fairway 2000, is also under way see Graham Bamford for tickets. Please support both of the raffles to help your Club. Good golfing to you all!

Thank You. Rod Atkins. - President.

### Better late than never!

Due to the space taken up in the last newsletter regarding the proposed turf nursery, the following contribution didn't get in:

**The Easter raffle** A huge thank you to all bought tickets, sold tickets and donated to our Easter raffle. Your generosity allowed us to prepare 10 beautiful prize baskets, and the winners were; Andrew Wood, Kath Cattanach, Bindi Pain, Deb Fitchner, Peta Rouse, Jason Muller, Ray Wood, Jim Douglas, Rebecca Hogan, & Heather Allford. All winners have been notified and we are delighted to have realized a profit of \$815.00. Thanks again for your support,

### More great stories!!!

Over recent times the club has been involved in a number of activities that have certainly helped our financial 'bottom line'. All those members involved in any way should be congratulated for their efforts.

#### Sunraysia Community Health Services Charity Day:

Raised about \$1450.00 for the club with the ladies catering realizing \$500.00, the bar about \$750.00 and about \$200.00 of raffle tickets were sold.

Sth Australian Vets: We estimate that these two days contributed about \$5,000.00 to the club finances made up of \$3,000.00 in green fees, \$900.00 from the ladies catering, \$650.00 over the bar and \$200.00 in raffle tickets. These two days are a major 'shot in the arm' for our finances. The players were all impressed with the state of the course but were more impressed with the standard of the soup and sandwiches provided by our ladies catering team.

### Guru Bob Says!

**Golf:** Is the art of using a flawed stance, a faulty grip and an ugly swing to hit a small ball badly towards the wrong hole!!!!

**Par:** Is the score achieved by a golfer who had only a few great shots on an entire round but somehow managed to hit them all on the same hole.

**Mixed Foursome:** is a quartet of golfers composed of two separate grounds for divorce!!! [Think about that!!!!!!]

### Grass Growers of Red Cliffs

At a meeting at the golf club on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May a partnership was formed that has the potential to secure the financial future of the Red Cliffs Golf Club. Nineteen individual investors, all members of the Red Cliffs Golf Club, put up \$25,000.00 as start up capital to establish a commercial turf nursery at the golf club. The other member of the partnership is the Red Cliffs Golf Club that has put up the land, an irrigation water allocation, labour and machinery usage.

The eventual aim of the project is for the enterprise to be wholly owned by the Red Cliffs Golf Club. As the project becomes more profitable the 19 individual investors will be bought out leaving the golf club as the sole owner. During the formative years of the project 50% of any profit will be allocated to the individual investors and 50% to the golf club. There are also plans to expand the area sown to turf as the project develops, but these expansion plans will only go ahead as finances permit.

As President Rod indicated in his article in this newsletter this is a big step for the club but is one that had to be taken if the club was to get out of the downwards financial spiral it has been in over recent years. Those of you that were at last year's AGM will remember the auditor commenting that the club could not continue to operate for very much longer unless the financial situation was turned around.

It is important that all members of the club look upon the turf project as theirs and not something that belongs to someone else. Whilst it is true that there are a number of members who have a direct financial interest in the project, every member who is concerned about the long-term future of the Red Cliffs Golf Club must get behind the project to ensure that it is successful. There will be times when members will be needed to help out and without that support the project will not be successful, so if you are called upon to help get stuck in.

### Notes from the General Committee

- Debt has been reduced by \$30,000 compared with the end of the last club financial year. Creditors have been reduced by \$20,000 over the same period.
- Small sub-committee to be formed to look at additional aspects of sponsorship, particularly on the course. Corporate golf packages are also a potential along with a variety of social events.
- There was quite a lot of discussion about membership classification due mainly to some recent requests for pro-rata memberships. There was agreement to alter the terms of the Temporary membership category to allow for monthly membership at twice the Ordinary member rate.
- A suggestion was discussed to alter the terms of the ball competition to exclude players who have already won a trophy on the day. The matter was referred to the Match Committee for deliberation.
- Several new members were accepted into the club.

### Upcoming events and attractions

- Teachers & Friends Golf day, Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July [Must be school holidays again!!!], See Mick Hogan for more details,
- Christmas in July Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> July. More details to come. This has been a great night in the past so put the date on your calendar now.
- There will be a visit by the Pooncarie members sometime in the near future, possibly in conjunction with one of the regular Ambrose in twos + 1 events. This promises to be a great fun day, so keep watching for more details.
- The 'Fairway 2000' raffle is on again. This is a major fund raiser for the club, not to mention the fact that it is also a great night. Get your ticket and if you can sell some tickets see Graham Bamford.
- Golf Club raffle. This on-going fund raiser is going really well so please continue to support Judy Dean and Julie Warne by helping to sell the tickets and returning ticket stubs and money promptly.

### Update from the Greens Committee

Members will have noticed that there is quite a lot of activity going on around the course at the moment. Whilst we may all have to put up with some temporary inconvenience, it will be worth it in the long-term. The 12<sup>th</sup> Green has been sprayed in readiness for it to be dug up and renewed to alleviate the couch grass problem. The joint tee at the 6<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> is progressing well and will make a tremendous difference when they become playable. Those members that helped to lay the new turf on the 17<sup>th</sup> tee will be pleased with their efforts as the new surface is bedding down really well. There is quite a lot of tree planting happening particularly adjacent to the 3<sup>rd</sup> and the 5<sup>th</sup>. The new renovation between the men's and ladies 3<sup>rd</sup> tees will be also worth watching. Finally the redevelopment of the 15<sup>th</sup> green is really coming along well. Not a bad list for a club with such limited staff resources. Where would we be without Tom's expertise, the hard work of Neville & James and that ever-ready band of club stalwarts 'Dad's Army'? Congratulations to you all as the course is a credit to your commitment to Red Cliffs Golf Club.

### A contribution from Daniel D Graham – from somewhere where they still call a yard a yard!

*Editors Note: Please be advised that this item might offend some, so if you take offence easily – stop now!*

There was foursome of ladies about to play a par three, 165 yards long. Suddenly a stalker ran out of the trees and darted across the fairway. In a gasp one lady remarked: "I think I know that guy, isn't that Dick Green?" No replied another, I think it's a reflection off the grass. [Boom Boom]

**Guru Bob says:** A 'lag' putt is the first quarter of a four putt. A ladies tee is the place from which women hit their drives and men hit their second shots [been there, done that] The game is called 'nolf' as it is the only four letter word left