

ROTORUA GOLF CLUB

NEWSLETTER



ISSUE 1 : JANUARY 2018



Welcome to our
'NEW LOOK'
newsletter!

I am looking forward to the coming golfing year with enthusiasm.

The addition of new members onto the Board with Brett and Steve committing to their roles, as well as the expertise of Ali in her Planning & Strategic role should make for a year of progress.

The appointment of **Alan Mitchell** as the **Marketing and Relationship Manager** will take the club down a new path, and we all look forward to the changes and success that this new approach will bring. Membership, sponsorship and increased course usage hopefully will be the ultimate result.

The steps being taken by Ant in the geyser Junior Golf Club setup appear to be gaining traction, and I wish him and his group well.

BOP Golf have recognised the potential of this venture and are assisting and from my BOP perspective we look forward to the resurgence of Junior Golf in the Rotorua area generally.

I thank Don for his efforts over the last few years, and wish him well in the changing nature of his role.

The course continues to provide a great facility thanks to the efforts of Kerry and his staff, as well as the many

volunteers who freely and generously give their time. Without this assistance we would not have the course we do.

I hope this new layout represents the start of a year of meaningful progress

May you all have a good golfing year.

-Doug McNab



Welcome to 2018, and the opportunity to enjoy what our Golf Club has to offer.

The implementation of this club newsletter has come from input from members to replace the separate Men's and Ladies Newsletters. It will be as informative as can be made from its contributors. Feedback from members will be important to keep it as up to date as possible.

Firstly, our course is in excellent condition even though Mother Nature has thrown everything at us in the past month or so. Kerry, Charles, Daniel, and our volunteers have presented the course in such a way that it is receiving excellent reviews from *YOU*, our members, as well as our visitors which is resulting in return visits.

Kath continues to provide excellent service in the Café and Bar, again receiving positive comments from both members and our visitors.

Ant, Hozumi, Greg, and Wayne continue to provide an excellent service in the Pro Shop to members and visitors which has a flow-on effect on our club. It is important that the club continues to support the Pro Shop.

Overall we have an excellent product and facility which we should be proud of.

Don Blackledge



Welcome to **Alan Mitchell** in his capacity as **Marketing and Relationships Manager**.

Alan will be ensuring our club gets the best profile to encourage more activity to the club from our city. I like his saying: ***“The Rotorua Golf Club is a reason to come to Rotorua, not something to do when you get to Rotorua.”***

For you, the members, enjoy your golf and please partake in the events planned for you where you can. It would be a shame to lose some competitions in the future through lack of support.

There is always room to improve on what we do as a club so all ideas will be gratefully accepted, reviewed, and implemented if it is to benefit the members and the club. Pass your ideas on to Alan, Ross, or Wendy, at any time.

A reminder that if you are not paying your subs by automatic payment then the second instalment is now due for payment.

All the best for the coming season and Good Golfing to you all.



Hey! Please support our sponsors!



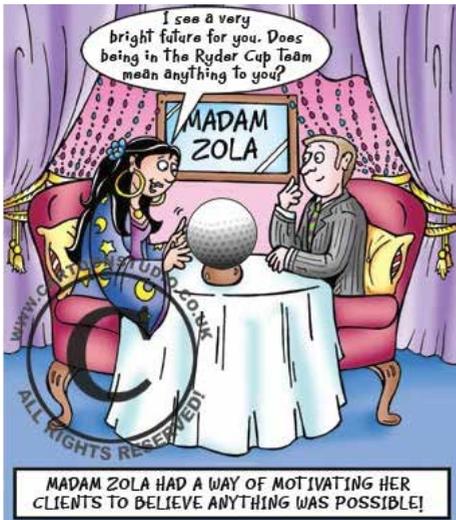
NEW YEAR GREETINGS TO YOU ALL.

The Board has welcomed two new members to its ranks for 2018, Steve Christie and Brett Marvelly.

Other people returning for another year are: the two golf committee captains Ross Morris and Wendy Fraser, President Doug McNab, Vice-President Ali Painter, and Peter Lewis.

They all freely give their time and expertise to the successful governance of our club as required by our constitution.

Our new **Marketing and Relationships Manager Alan Mitchell**, is settling into his role and in early March the restructure of the office will be completed.



Robin Thompson



We are still awaiting an outcome of our lease negotiations with DOC. It seems that working with a government department requires endless patience, and at the time of writing there is nothing to add to that which was outlined at the AGM in December.

The same applies to Transit NZ with regard to compensation for the land taken to build the Hemo Rd roundabout.

Our summer membership promotion has been successful, and has kept our total membership numbers close to those of last year.

This has meant that income has been maintained and we are rolling along close to budget so far for the year.

Our 2018 programme is about to get underway, so I look forward to you all enjoying your golf on our wonderful course.

Hi everyone. We hope you all had a pleasant Christmas and New Year. We had some great weather, didn't we! Too hot for some, and there were some very early starters on the golf course, to beat the heat. There is plenty of run too, and some really low scores for the Summer Cup are being returned. (For example, Di Gilmour had a gross 75 recently).

And **Gloria Mayes** had a hole-in-one on the 6th hole on Tuesday 9 January! Heartiest congratulations Gloria. Quite a few ladies shared some resultant conviviality in the club house afterwards.

Ladies' Opening Days

A reminder of the dates for our opening days next month:

Saturday 10 February
Tuesday 13 February
Wednesday 14 February

Later Ladies' Start Time

Note that the start time for ladies on Saturday 3 February is 9:28 a.m. This is due to the Men's Opening Day Shotgun Ambrose tournament.

New Club Shirt

We had mentioned earlier that we would obtain a selection of possible club shirts for ladies to peruse at our opening day forums.

Wendy Fraser



However, we have decided that it would be really good to have the new shirts ready for the first pennant match (Friday 16 February). So after much deliberation and many shirts later, the committee has chosen a new shirt. A sample is in the Pro Shop if anyone would like to have a look. We have to move now, as the shirts need to be ordered and embroidered with the club logo.

Pennant Dates

Sheets are up for Championship pennants, Wrathall Shield and Association Pennants. Please put your name down if you would like to be considered for selection.

Fundraising

Thank you to all the members who so willingly assisted with fundraising at the end of last year. Proceeds were:

Landmark lunch	\$ 380
Car boot sale	\$ 514
Christmas trees	\$3,616

Good golfing, and we look forward to the start of the new golfing year.



With another golfing season upon us, I wonder what 2018 will bring?

The doomers and gloomers amongst us will talk of falling numbers, members not playing, and the need to change Golf's image to attract the next generation. There are so many more options available for parents and kids now, without the entrenched tradition golfing brings.

I fall into the optimistic brigade that thinks mixing tradition with innovation will attract the new wave of golfing enthusiasts. To that end the club appointing a Marketing Manager is a positive move forward in developing that mix. Perhaps we should look at new methods of attracting members, both casual and permanent, and changing formats of competitions to appeal to a wider audience.

That's not to say traditional club comps have to be sacrificed but merely be an option amongst options.

A tradition which The Rotorua Golf Club has fostered over many years is putting forth pennant teams in the BOP competition. Long may this last, and I am pleased to see from a recent email, more members are making themselves available.

Ross Morris



Thanks to Antony Plowman, from Insurance Towers, for his on going sponsorship.

A special thank you to all club committee members and volunteers who give their time unselfishly to our club. Without you the comps and course would not be as good as they are.

Kerry and his staff of green keepers do an amazing job presenting our course as well as they do and should be applauded.

Happy golfing for 2018.



Mary Browne

“The keeper of the Arkikapakapa Archives”

He aha te mea nui o te ao
What is the most important thing in the world?

He tangata, He tangata, He tangata
It is people, it is people it is people.
-Maori proverb.

The above quote embraces all that Mary Browne is to the Arikikapakapa Golf Club. Mary has been part of the club for over 44 years. She has been intimately involved in a range of management roles, committees, developing a gardening programme for the course as well as running and organising parties to celebrate older members of the golfing community.

This has been in addition to writing, printing and collating newsletters and personal vignettes so people do not forget what has gone before in the history of the club.

Whatever she has been doing around the golf club it has always involved people.

So let us look at some of her golfing achievements?

Mary has had a handicap of 13 which is a very acceptable result.

- 1982 Bronze 1 Pennants Winner
- 1984 Intermediate Club Champion
- 1989-1992 Ladies' Club Captain
- 2000 Club President
[after 4 years of being Vice President]
- 2010 Shoot out winner
- 2011 Labour Day Golf Club Winner

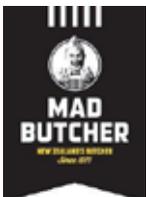
There are very few Ladies club awards that Mary has not won at some time or another.



Mary with the original NZ Vets trophy

She has an amazing working knowledge of the archives room and historical side of the golf club. From 1929 Arkikapakapa Golf Course has been involved with Vets golf and until

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just recently always held the NZ Men's Vets AGM when it was felt this should be shared around other clubs. With the Vets recently funded the retaining wall as you walk to the 9th green.

She also made a comment that women have always had a strong presence around the golf club that during the 2nd World War it was the women who maintained and kept running the golf club.

Mary started helping Bob Bishop (this developed to printing, collating, adding cartoons and general golf gossip) with the club newsletter "Dispatcher" and then was part of the team working with Ken Klitcher to produce the Centennial Booklet of 2006.

Mary was also involved in the 1981 75th Jubilee Celebrations and produced the framed embroidered club logo. One of her achievements was initiating and co ordinating Pukaki as the club logo.

Three ladies members have influenced Mary in various ways. Shirley Johnson was an outstanding local and BOP player and administrator of the club and a colourful character initially thought Mary a "Fluffy player" They became close friends. Kate Shaw was a well respected golfing identity for

many years as well as being a local historian and past patron who lived to 103 and regularly attended golf functions; and lastly, Peggy Hewison who developed her love of gardens and passed this on to Mary.

Some of the notable areas that Mary has initiated and does with such wonderful style and which so epitomises Mary's love of people and the golf club members, have been the "Morning teas/lunch time" get togethers for the past and present members over 80 and over 90. Mary co-ordinates and sources the club records and extra helpers as well as the invitations, flowers, food and finally the photographs of the participants.

One of her passions has been the gradual love of the development of the beautification of the course. She was inspired by the brilliant red Rhododendron display on the back 5th. In addition the quiet influence from Peggy and with the good growing environment in Rotorua Mary planned more Rhodos. The plants between 7/8 were planted by the then Rotorua District Council. The Rhodos between the 10/11 have a cherry Tree at their centre. Perhaps one of the significant plantings has been the Golden Cypress

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indicating the edge of the 18 Fairway. She initially did the gardening of the course herself. However, over time this became too big a job so the idea of members adopting a hole to look after has been used.

The Bridge on the 14th involved most of the Browne Whanau. Murray designed the bridge, and Mary used funds from her late mother Rae Fraser- Smith's estate.

According to Mary it took some convincing of the mens committee to agree to the stone bridge - they preferred a flat wooden bridge. Mary and Murray drove over and selected the stones from a quarry at Te Puke, brought them back and Mary then placed and grouted the the stones.

She was instructed to clean the grouting with sulphuric acid. Which she promptly did only to collapse from the fumes from the acid! During Autumn, from the green of the 14th looking back you see the RGC initials in the plants of Nandina Domestica and inspired planting by Mary.



On a lighter note Mary has recently been involved with feeding "Jo Jo" the duck who has taken up residence by the small trees on the stream on the 4/5 holes. She is so well fed that her belly is almost touching the ground!



Mary is one special lady who has given and continues to give to Arkikapapa Golf Course. She is a creative, innovative, modest and hard working person who so willingly gives with a wonderful laugh and smile.

How lucky is Arikikapapa Golf Club to have her?

HAPPINESS
is a long walk
with a putter . . .
and a cupcake?

NEXT MONTH'S PROGRAMME

10

- 1 Thu PROBUS Rotorua Vets Waitapu
3 Sat MEN Opening Day. Alf Relph Trophy, Shootout starts
LADIES Summer Cup Final
5 Mon BOP Vets Rotorua
6 Tue LADIES Summer Cup Final Waitangi Day
7 Wed MEN Scramble
9 HOLE Summer Cup Final B9
8 Thu Rotorua Vets Lake View
NZ Men's Senior Championship. Christchurch 8th-10th
10 Sat MEN Monthly Medal
LADIES Opening Day, Ambrose, Forum
11 Sun MEN Championship Pennants Tauranga
LADIES Championship Pennants Tauranga
12 Mon BOP LADIES FORUM - Otumoetai
13 Tue LADIES Opening Day, Ambrose, Forum.
14 Wed MEN Scramble *Valentines Day*
9 HOLE Opening Day, Forum, Ambrose, F9
15 Thur Rotorua Vets Rotorua
16 Fri LADIES Wrathall Shield (1) Turangi
17 Sat MEN Stroke Play (1)
LADIES Stableford Day, Saturday Ladies Plate (1)
Grant Clements Memorial
18 Sun MEN Intermediate Pennants Lake View
MEN Junior Pennants Lake View
Grant Clements Memorial
19 Mon NZ Women's Senior Championship. Kerikeri 19th-22nd
BOPTV Women's Vets AGM Whangamata
20 Tue LADIES Stableford Day
21 Wed MEN Scramble
9 HOLE LGU(1), Victory(1) B9
22 Thu Rotorua Vets Springfield
24 Sat MEN Stroke Play (2)
LADIES LGU(1), Victory(1), Putting(1). Shootout starts
Sth Island Stroke Play Championships. St Clair 24th-25th

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	NZ Speedgolf Open
	Windross Farm
25 Sun	MEN Championship Pennants Rotorua
	MEN Senior Pennants Lake View
	MEN Intermediate Pennants Waiotapu
	MEN Junior Pennants Waiotapu
	LADIES Championship Pennants Rotorua
	NZ Speedgolf Open
	Windross Farm
26 Mon	LADIES Association Pennants(1) Turangi
27 Tue	LADIES LGU(1), Victory(1), Putting(1). Shootout starts
28 Wed	MEN Pukeroa Oruawhata Stableford
	9 HOLE LGU(2), Putting(1), Sue Bunt Salver(1) F9

Blast from the past

We have three drinking fountains on our course donated in 1987 by Earl Wimsett.

Earl was a dentist in Palmerston North who retired to Lake Okareka and joined our club. He saw a need for water holes and generously donated the solid stone drink stations – very useful lately on the hot days.

Fence around Rubbish Area

This wooden fence and gate behind the caterers residence is rotten and needs replacing.

The posts are solid but the railings and palings (about 12.5m length) have rotted. This is a good spot for an advert from a generous supplier of timber, so if anyone has contacts or ideas, or has handyman expertise to help on the job, please contact Brian Gore (b.k.gore41@gmail.com)

Volunteers

People to help with small jobs are vital to our club to help keep costs down and improve our appearance to members and visitors alike. If you can offer occasional help please contact Brian Gore. Things like gardening, hedge trimming, painting, minor maintenance, and tidying are all jobs which save the greenkeepers time so they can work on the grounds and greens. Most times it is about two hours maximum on a group project, but many jobs can be done when it suits.

***If you want to know more I would love to hear from you
Brian Gore 027 464 3068.***



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WE ARE INTO 2018 RUNNING . . .

. . . and I am looking forward to what lies ahead.

A huge thank you to those who did shop with us in 2017 as we do our very best to help you with the best prices and service we can. Come talk to us first for any golfing needs.

Junior golf is growing nicely with the Geyserland Junior Golf Club and these juniors will slowly start playing our club events. They are full members of the club so welcome them when they start playing.

We are getting a steady flow of visitors to the club with very positive feedback about the course. We seem to be getting mainly Europeans through with the occasional group from Asia. Keep

making them welcome to add to their experience.

We have new stock coming in almost every week including Adidas shorts and polo shirts, Sun Mountain trundlers and we look forward to the NEW Taylormade gear to arrive Mid Feb.

Please join us on Facebook and check out our website which is gaining momentum

www.100percentgolf.com

Your Team

Greg, Wayne, Hozumi and Ant

Callaway, Titleist, Wilson Staff, Sun Mountain, Clicgear, Motorcaddy, Powacaddy, Footjoy, Adidas, Volvic, Bushnell, Sureshot, Value package sets and lots, lots more! (can get Cobra, Tour Edge and MGi)

INSURANCE TOWERS GOLF STUDIO

IN STORE
CLUB FITTINGS
SIMULATOR PLAY
HOLE IN ONE
PRACTICE
LESSONS



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The professional insurance centre



All for now!
Check out
the next edition
... in FEBRUARY!