

The Brassie

Newsletter of the Australian Golf Heritage Society

The aim of AGHS is to encourage the collection, research, recording and preservation of information and objects connected with the history of golf in Australia, to inform golfers, golf clubs and the community in general.

Winter 2010

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Dan Cullen

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Tom Moore, *Museum*

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Editor of The Brassie
Gerry Bush

President's Message

It is my pleasure to welcome Members to the Winter edition of "The Brassie". It is wonderful to see the many interesting articles and contributions from Members and the Management Committee. Thanks to our editor Gerry Bush and Tom Winter for the excellent presentation of the Newsletter and Michael Sheret for his continued support.

Two of our sponsors, the NSW Golf Association and Women's Golf have now completed the amalgamation process. I wish the new organisation, Golf NSW, every success and along with the PGA of Australia look forward to their continued support. One of our major ongoing projects is The Golf Museum at Granville and I am pleased to advise that Emma Williams has now been appointed as part time Curator of the Museum. Emma will be a very significant contributor to the enhancement of the Museum and all Members are encouraged to take the opportunity to visit the Museum.

I attended the Dan Cullen Trophy, in honour of our Patron, at Long Reef GC in March. Dan was in hospital at the time but is now making a steady recovery. We look forward to him being back to golf very soon. This, and the match against our Victorian counterparts held in Canberra provide excellent opportunities to meet other Members through the golfing activities of the Society.

The Annual General Meeting of the Society is planned to be held on 28th September at North Ryde GC and I would like all Members to make a note of this date in their calendars.

The Meeting provides an excellent opportunity to become involved in the activities of the Society and to meet Members of the Management Committee and other Members who are involved in the historical recordings of their golf clubs.

Bruce Nairn
President



2010 AGHS Playing Program *(for your diary)*

Thursday 12 August :: 2pm start Rosnay GC :: 9 holes hickory

Sunday 26 September :: 3.15 pm start Liverpool GC :: 9 holes hickory

Qualifying for Des Froneman Trophy – scratch matchplay.

Thursday 7 October :: 12 noon start Port Kembla GC :: 13 holes hickory

Qualifying for Matchplay Championship

Thursday 9 November :: 11.30 am start Georges River GC
Australian Hickory Shaft Championships for Men and Ladies

The Golf Museum at Granville is proudly sponsored by Golf Mart and supported by the Golf NSW, PGA of Australia and Museums & Galleries New South Wales.

Captain's Report

Qualifiers from the 2009 Australian Hickory Shaft Championship for 2010 - The President's Putter event were as follows:-

Les Browne, Bruno Pase, Barry Leithhead, Brian Ollerton, Jim Glenday, Geoff Martin, Paul Gladwin and Martin Picknell.

Congratulations to all qualifiers on the spirit in which the matches were played and to Les Browne who defeated Paul Gladwin in the Final played at Long Reef GC.

On March 18 the Dan Cullen Trophy was contested at Long Reef Golf Club. This was the ninth occasion on which this event was held and was played in conjunction with the Links Classic. Played as a 2 Ball Ambrose over eleven holes the winners of the Trophy were Geoff Martin and Tom Moore with a nett score of 37½ with Les Browne and Tony Picknell a close second with 37¼. In third place was Peter Read and Dan Cullen Jnr with a score of 38¼.

The Links Classic was won by Long Reef members Ian McDermott and Simon Perkins with a nett score of 40.

Due to illness Dan was unable to attend the presentation and the trophies were presented by his wife, Enid.

Congratulations to the Directors and Course Superintendent and Staff of Long Reef Golf Club on the course which was presented in excellent condition on the day.

The Al Howard Trophy, which is the annual match between The Golf Society of Australia (Victoria) and The Australian Golf Heritage Society (NSW), was finalised at Federal Golf Club, Canberra on 22 April. Using hickory shafts the match was played on a very well presented course in glorious weather conditions with the Canberra Autumn colours spectacular - the conditions could not have been better for golf. Tom Moore, Trevor Bartley, Barry Leithhead, Roger Weik, Ken Hughes, Paul Gladwin, Geoff Martin, Barry Meares, Michael Sheret and myself attended for AGHS. A number of our members were seconded to Victoria to even the teams up and Michael, as a member of both Societies, elected to play for Victoria. Matches are played over 18 holes and the number of holes won in each match are recorded to ascertain the winning team. Michael Sheret proved to be the difference in winning a large number of holes in his match. As a result the Al Howard Trophy was won by our Victorian counterparts.

The hospitality of the Federal Golf Club was enjoyed after the event with friendships being forged over dinner and everyone looking forward to next year's event. The sojourn was completed with 18 holes at Queanbeyan Golf Club on 23 April with our modern clubs. This two day event proved to be a very sociable occasion and is highly recommended for more golfers to take part.

Refer to the golfing program for the year and endeavour to play whenever possible to experience the game with hickory shafts and to make new acquaintances along the way.

Tony Doggett
Captain

Golf Museum Report

The Golf Museum continues to develop and now, by arrangement with The Australian Golf Heritage Society, Emma Williams has been appointed to a part time position as Museum Curator. Emma has a degree in Museum Studies and will prove to be a great asset. Among Emma's first duties will be to further implement the Interpretation Plan, organise storage facilities and to commence preventative maintenance procedures. The Golf Museum is open to Members and others each Sunday and Emma will be available to assist visitors with their enquiries.

Adding to the Museum's growing collection, two clubs belonging to Ted Ball have been donated to the Museum by Mrs Kerry Taylor. Ted was brilliant player of the 60's and 70's winning many major tournaments.

Next year marks 100 years of the PGA of Australia. It is the second oldest PGA in the world. PGA Australia will be holding a number of events to commemorate the Centenary and the AGHS will be involved where possible.

The Living History Dinner was held at Muirfield GC on 7 March featuring Marea Parsons (*nee Hickey*) as the guest speaker. Peter Read acted as emcee for the evening and explained that one of the aims of the AGHS was to arrange for golfing personalities to speak of their life experiences and to record it for the Society archives. Lady President of Muirfield, Di Stelzer, introduced Marea as one of the greatest champions of Australian Ladies Amateur Golf. In the 60's and early 70's Marea was virtually unbeatable in Ladies golf in Australia. Among other things Marea spoke of the early days in developing her golf game in Gosford and the encouragement she got from her parents under the watchful eye of Peter Churcher. Billy Dunk was one of her contemporaries who also helped in creating a winning attitude. She spoke of her international career in winning the National Championships of Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. Society President, Bruce Nairn, presented Marea with a sheath of flowers. Muirfield Club Captain, Glen Willard, thanked the Society for organising the golf and dinner. In conjunction with the dinner 58 played golf and the winners were:

Members :: Nigel Black (*Muirfield*) Martyn Black (*Asquith*) 32½
Mixed :: Paul & Denise Gladwin (*Avondale*) 30¼.

Negotiations are under way to stage a hickory day and Living History dinner at the delightful nine hole course at Craigieburn Resort, Bowral. Peter Read and I visited Craigieburn in May for a photo shoot sporting hickory shafts and period dress. Following discussions with Resort Manager, Rein Donkin, it was agreed that the Society and the Resort would work jointly to hold an inaugural 18 hole hickory event followed by a "Living History Dinner" which would become an annual event at the Resort. Entry fee for golf will be \$35. The Evening Dinner will be a roast with choice of desserts with port or beer and a bottle of red and white wine on each table, cost \$40. An accommodation package will be available comprising golf for one, Dinner for two and bed and breakfast for two at the Craigieburn Resort, total cost \$259. Entry form and further information will be emailed and be available on the website shortly.

Tom Moore
Museum Manager

The Golf Museum (above GolfMart), 4 Parramatta Rd, Granville
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Historians Group Report

Ron Harper, Pennant Hills GC Historian has produced a set of guidelines for the establishment and management of a Club's Archive Room. The guidelines are easy to read and describe in detail what is required to establish excellent club records. Importantly, it explains the process necessary to ensure the preservation of important paper documents, photographs and other items so that valuable documents and items of interest are secure and will be available for future generations.

The document also identifies the most cost effective and user friendly software. This is a most important issue, after having committed countless hours to data entry and recording, to ensure that the software is such that present and future members can readily access the data. The mistake has been made by a number of clubs purchasing very intense museum standard software which was not suitable for recording golf club records.

Ron's document, "*Club History - Archive Room*", will be available to Clubs when they become members of the AGHS.

Peter Read
Club Historians



Eddie Anderson – A Great Survivor

Eddie Anderson began his golfing life as a caddy at the Sandgate GC in Brisbane. Club Professional, Arthur Gazzard, promised Eddie a job if he won the Courier Mail Cup and the Queensland Caddies Championship in 1931. Eddie won both events and got the job!

He became a fully fledged Professional when he took the position at Maryborough GC. However, he didn't stay there very long as he was too far away from competition golf and returned to Brisbane to take the Professional's position at Nudgee GC.

From here he won the Queensland Closed and Open Championship and the Spalding Purse.

In 1937 he was appointed Professional at Wynnum GC and again won the Queensland Closed and the Spalding Purse and added the Queensland Professional Championship and the Dunlop Cup. In 1938 he was runner-up in the Queensland Professional Championship and again won the Dunlop Cup.

In 1939 he won the Queensland Professional Championship for the second time and the Spalding Purse for the fourth time.

In 1940 Eddie's life was about to change remarkably when he joined the AIF.

He went to Malaya with the 8th Division and was taken prisoner when Singapore fell. Put to work with thousands of other prisoners, Eddie, who must have had a marvelous constitution, survived the building of the infamous Burma- Thailand railway. When that was finished he was bundled with three hundred other POWs into the Ku-Maruru to be taken back to Japan.

At 3 o'clock one morning the ship was torpedoed. Later that day, at dusk about 6 pm, a Japanese destroyer picked up the Japanese who had occupied the lifeboats. The Australians, who waited until the destroyer was out of sight, piled into the abandoned lifeboats. There were about twenty five in the lifeboat into which Eddie scrambled, including Dr Rowley Richards, the only surviving Officer not injured or drowned. There were fifteen lifeboats. Thirteen of them decided to head north and were never heard of again. Two agreed to put up what sail they could and go west, which they assumed would be heading for the coast of China. After about four days on the sea, with hardly any water to drink and only mouldy skinned rice found in a dirty tin in the bottom of the lifeboat, they were picked up by two Japanese patrolling destroyers. The destroyer took them to the Chinese port of Amoy where they waited in a whaling station to continue their trip to Japan. However they were in for even more excitement. Their convoy, a destroyer with corvettes, together with a tramp ship and oil tanker, were all torpedoed and sunk. Amazingly the whaling ship survived and eventually arrived at Moogi, a southern port in Japan.

For the next ten months Eddie worked in a chemical factory or as a wharf labourer. After Armistice, American planes dropped supplies and clothing and food was railed in from Yokohama. More than three years life as a POW terminated when Eddie was shipped to Manila to convalesce, and then taken home on the British aircraft carrier, Formidable.

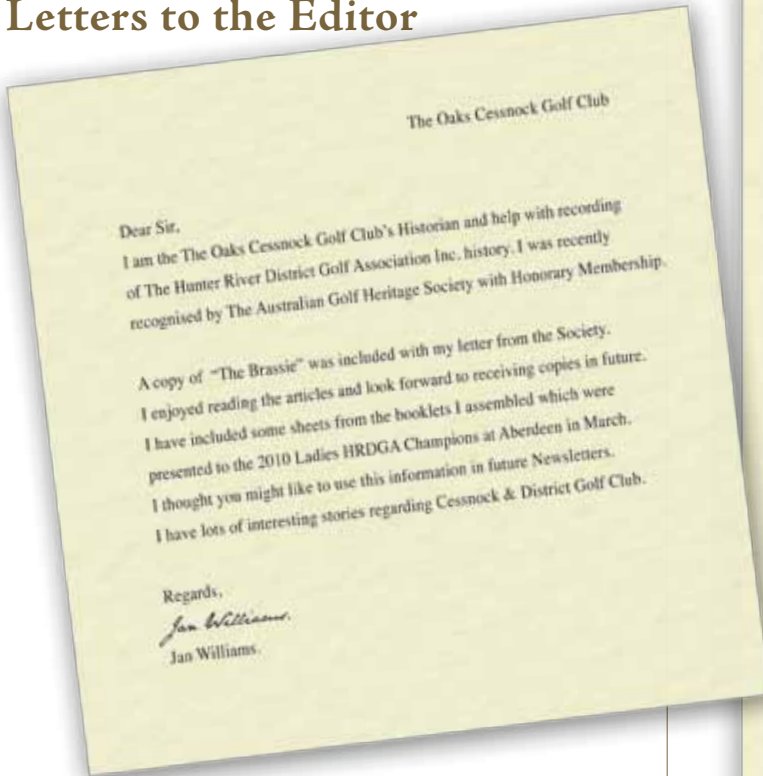
Eddie returned to golf in 1946 as the Professional at Keparra GC in Brisbane and won the Spalding Purse for the fifth time. In 1948 he decided to come to Sydney and accepted the position as Professional at Elanora GC. He transferred to Strathfield GC in 1950 where he became immensely popular. Strathfield GC spent £4,000 to build a Clubhouse and home for Eddie and his wife, Beryl, at the nearby 9 hole Northcote public course which adjoined Strathfield.

From a competitive golf point of view 1951 was Eddie's best in Sydney. He won the purses at Roseville, Oatlands and Roselands with respective scores of 64, 69 and 67. Teaming with former Queensland player, Reg Want, he was also successful in winning the NSW Professional Foursomes title. (*Per PGA Golf Monthly, March 1952*)

(After leaving Strathfield GC Eddie went on to build the first nine holes at Hudson Park for Strathfield Council. He and Beryl lived in a small cottage in Mitchell Rd, Strathfield. Eddie died in 1992. His son Larry lives in Kalpowar, Queensland. In 2004 a church group bought the cottage to extend their church next door and discovered a box under the house filled with unusual wooden blocks. They thought they might have something to do with golf and brought them to the Golf Museum for identification. I was able to identify them as rough turned persimmon golf wood blocks and in fact some of the blocks were found to have brass soleplates fitted and stamped "EDDIE ANDERSON STRATHFIELD GOLF CLUB". At the time Eddie was Professional at Strathfield GC, all club golf professionals made golf woods to order from the rough turned blocks. They are now part of the collection at the Golf Museum.)

Tom Moore

Letters to the Editor



Mrs Williams is compiling a very comprehensive history of records and achievements of lady golfers within the Hunter River District. Right is an excerpt featuring Kath Tulloch.

Kathleen Edith Tulloch

Born at Pokolbin in 1906, died 24th November 1983.

First winner of Hunter River District Association Ladies Championship in 1929. Subsequently won the event in 1934, 1935, 1936 and 1955.

(Article form The Cessnock Eagle 1983)

One of Cessnock's most distinguished golfing associates, Miss Kath Tulloch, has died at the age of 77 years. Miss Tulloch began playing golf as a teenager on the first of three courses in Cessnock along Mt Riverview Road, traveling in from Glen Elgin, Pokolbin in a sulky. Later she accompanied Mrs Lindeman before she owned her own transport – a motor bike. This enabled her to play at Singleton, Newcastle and further afield.

Referred to as the Tiger from Cessnock by Northern players because of her consistency – she held many records. She broke the local course record for women with 75 off the stick. Her hole-in-one at Kurri was the first for an associate in the district. Kath began her championship career at the age of 21 on the second course in West Cessnock, being Club Champion in 1927, 1928, 1929 and also in 1937, 1938 and 1939. She was Champion again at The Country Club in 1958 and 1959. At the Hunter championships held at Singleton one year she

HUNTER RIVER DISTRICT GOLF ASSOCIATION
LADIES CHAMPIONSHIP CUP 1935

Kath TULLOCH

1929 : First Winner of the Hunter River District Association Ladies Championship at Cessnock Course

1934 : Won Ladies Championship

HRDGA Lady Championship Cup 1935 : 1936 and 1955

Cessnock Golf Club Lady Championship 1927, 1928, 1929, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1958, 1959.

Kathleen Edith TULLOCH
B. 1906 at Pokolbin.
Died 24th November 1983
age 77 at Sunshine, Lake Macquarie.

won the whole program of five events. With her brother, Keith, also a champion player, the family combination won many mixed events. After countless wins in local district and country competitions, Miss Tulloch's greatest golfing feat was to win the 1959 State 36 hole scratch event, and to be presented with the Una Clift Bowl by the donor.

She held every executive position in her Club and was President from 1955 to 1958. Failing eyesight and poor health caused Miss Tulloch's early retirement from golf but her name lives on at The Country Club on the trophies she has donated:- The Tulloch Challenge Brooch has been played for each month since 1952.

The Kath Tulloch Cup handicap event held each year since 1964 Miss Tulloch was also prominent in the Quota Club. A Charter and past president, she retained her interest in it and her great love and support for the Children's Medical Research Foundation.

*Truly one of the club champions of not so recent times.
Congratulations to Mrs Williams as she enjoys her chronicling.*

(Any articles such as this from Society or Club Members would be welcomed by readers of "The Brassie". Ed.)

Lost Golf Courses in Sydney (part 2)

NORTH WEST

Riverview. A 9 hole course sited on land owned by St Ignatius College existed from 1937/8 to 1958. It was west of College Road.

Eastwood. A 9 hole course bounded by Lovell Road to the north, Blaxland Road to the south and Kings Road to the east existed for a short time in the 1930s.

Beecroft. Two courses existed. The first was from 1907 to 1911 at Thornleigh. However, the course had to be relocated to the western side of Pennant Hills Road at Beecroft, and it lasted until 1913.

West Pennant Hills. A 9 hole course known as Bonny View existed for a short time in the vicinity of Loftus Road.

Parklea. A course existed here with Meurants Lane to the north and Spring Avenue to the south.

Old Toongabbie. The 9 hole "One Tree Hill" course was on the north side of Old Windsor Road between Buckleys Road and Toongabbie Creek.

Berkshire Park. South of Richmond Road and east of Llandilo Road was the Berkshire Country Club for a short time. It became a greyhound racing park.

Windsor. Barry Leithhead advises that there were courses at Gasper's paddock and Gosper Street circa 1904, a short course off Ross Street from 1910 to 1914 and one at Maraylya, off Boundary Road from 1960 to 1975.

Rydalmere. A course was established in the 1930s off Kirby Street near Upjohn Park by Steve Pegum, who had been with Spalding. It ceased in 1949.

West Ryde. The Spurway Ridge Golf Course was just off Marsden Road near Rutledge Street and was pure mountain goat country.

OUTER WEST

Parramatta. In 1902 The Honourable Company of Parramatta Golfers Limited was formed and a 17 hole course was laid out in Parramatta Park with the second hole being played twice. During 1929 the Trustees of Parramatta Park advised the club that the land was to revert to parkland. The club ceased operations in September 1934 with many members joining what was Ryde Golf Club, which in January 1935 resolved to alter its name to "Ryde-Parramatta Golf Club Limited".

Penrith. During 1912 a course was laid out on the Hornseywood Estate, which crossed Evan Street. In 1920 the course moved to Glebe Place. In 1933 the Thornton Hill Golf Club was formed and played over a 9 hole course in the centre of town.

Lidcombe. In 1935 the Glen Ayre Golf Course faced Parramatta Road to the north, Bachell Avenue to the west and Arthur Street to the south. It was a 9 hole course that also included Sydney's first driving range.

Silverwater. The Carnarvon Golf Club was formed in 1927 and its 18 hole course was on the eastern side of Silverwater Road, extending from Derby Street north to the Parramatta River and east to Haslam's Creek. The US forces took over the site during World War II and 9 holes were lost. During this period the club obtained land in Joseph Street, Lidcombe, and moved to its new 18 hole course in 1949.

Rooty Hill. A 9 hole course existed for a short time off Rooty Hill Road.

Erskine Park. An 18 hole course existed on the eastern side of Mamre Road.

Kingswood. A 9 hole course existed on the eastern side of Bringelly Road.

Mulgoa. A 9 hole course existed off Elizabeth Drive.

St Marys. In the late 1950s a 27 hole complex, owned by the Ex-Servicemen's Club, existed south west of the town.

Historical Rules Incident

The Rules of Golf are fascinating. They are an integral part of the game. Sometimes the Rules seem unnecessarily harsh. Yet, if we think the current Rules are harsh, we should remember that they were a lot harsher in days gone by. This leads me to a famous Rules incident in Australian golf history.

The 1907 Australian Open was won by Michael Scott. This result carried a great deal of bitter controversy. On the 12th tee Scott played by mistake from outside the teeing ground, in fact to one side of the teeing ground. Many contended that he should therefore have been disqualified. The Royal Melbourne Golf Club, the host club and administrators of the event, waived any penalty for this breach of the Rules. As the runner-up, Dan Soutar, had most reason to feel aggrieved by the RMGC ruling. Soutar's disappointment is revealed in his letters to his wife (see *"Pro Golf: Out of the Rough"* by Colin de Groot and Jim Webster, 1991). RMGC did, after the event, seek a ruling from the R&A, who ruled that Scott should have been disqualified.

Nevertheless, RMGC allowed Scott's win to stand, presumably on the grounds that, as organisers of the event, their decision was final, the result had been declared and the competition closed.

Some aspects of this incident have always puzzled me, and they sent me back to that excellent website <www.ruleshistory.com>. The fact that he played his tee shot outside the teeing ground was brought to Scott's attention by his fellow-competitor, Victor East. Why did Scott not replay his tee shot from the correct place under penalty of two strokes? That would have been allowed under the current Rules (11-4b). There was no such leniency in 1907. Once the golfer had played from outside the teeing ground, the penalty was immediate disqualification – no second chance (1907 Special Rules for Stroke Competitions: Rule 5). So if you think the current Rules are harsh, this is a nice reminder of how the Rules generally were much harsher in bygone days.

There was at the time a strong suspicion that RMGC decided against Soutar because of a prejudice against professional golfers (*not uncommon in 1907*) and a favourable bias towards Scott, who was not only a distinguished amateur golfer but also a member of RMGC. There were, however, plausible mitigating circumstances to support the RMGC ruling. In 1907 common practice was to indicate the teeing ground by the sand box on one side and a tee marker on the other. For the 1907 Open RMGC used two tee markers and, the sand box, which had no standing to define the teeing ground, was placed to one side. What is known for fact is that on the 12th tee the sand box was mistakenly placed differently, and this mistake caused enough



confusion for Scott and others to tee off from a wrong place. Scott's mistake was understandable and none of the erring players would have gained a significant advantage by playing from the side of the teeing ground. RMGC would have had problems identifying precisely every player who had made the mistake. Also, there was no doubt that Scott was the best player as, without the disqualification penalty, he finished eight strokes ahead of the runner-up. RMGC may therefore have decided their ruling on the basis of equity (1907 Rule 36). However, the 1907 equity Rule is the same as it is today (1-4): an equity ruling cannot overrule a Rule of Golf.

Does it recall the R&A ruling on the Bobby Locke incident in the 1957 British Open?

Michael Sheret

Notes:

§ For more on Dan Soutar see: *"Soutar"* by John Scarth and Neil Crafter in the series *"Great Australian Golf Architects"* published in *"Golf Architecture"* the journal of the Society of Australian Golf Architects. It can be downloaded from <www.golfstrategies.com.au/graphics/articles/Soutar%20GA7.pdf>.

§ Despite his outstanding record as a golfer, not much has been written about Michael Scott. The Wikipedia entry under *"Michael Scott (golfer)"* is as good a source as any.

§ Reports on how exactly the sand box was placed on the 12th tee are inconsistent. For the various explanations of the mix-up and opinions on the Rules refer to: *The Royal Melbourne Golf Club – A Centenary History* by Joseph Johnson, 1991, p70; *The Argus*, 28/9/1907, p16; *The Advertiser* 28/9/1907, p11; *The Sydney Morning Herald* 18/10/1907, p10, letter from William Archibald Windeyer. I thank John Green of RMGC for pointing me to the RMGC Centenary History.