

Getting to Know Your Museum

Australian Golf Heritage Society members are no doubt aware that The Museum is one of the four main aims of the Society along with Playing Events, the Historians Group and Publications. However, some may be less familiar with the story of The Museum's development, and what goes on there today.

The Australian Golf Heritage Society Museum originated with Tom Moore's collection which began in the 1970s. Tom saw that Australia's golfing heritage was literally being thrown away and decided to do something about preserving it. The collection was donated to the Golf Collector's Society in 1995 and, in 2000, it was moved to its present location at 4 Parramatta Road, thanks to the kind offer of space provided by Dennis Brosnan and Golf Mart, Granville.



The Museum is a collection store, display space and venue for Society programs and events. As well as a permanent exhibition charting the changes in golfing equipment and technology over the decades, special semi-permanent exhibitions on different topics of interest are also displayed. In 2012 The Museum presented an exhibition celebrating 100 Years of the PGA in Australia. Talks and demonstrations provide advice to collectors and The Museum regularly accepts new items via donation. A good deal of time is spent accessioning donated items into the collection, researching the collection and implementing conservation measures such as the quality of archival storage. The Museum collection was provided with a Significance Assessment report describing "its collection as significant for its association with professional golf in Australia" in respect to the nature and quality of its exhibits. The Museum also runs a small gift shop "for the golfer who has everything".

How can you get involved?

If you haven't been to The Museum for a while (or ever) why not stop by? We are open every Sunday from 10 am to 4 pm (excluding public holidays) and by appointment. We welcome first time visitors and are happy to arrange tours for group bookings. Why not promote The Museum at your club?



Additionally, The Museum is always looking for volunteers to assist with a broad range of tasks, including preparing items to be accepted formally into the collection, research and giving simple guided tours.

There's a range of tasks to be done that will suit all skill sets and we can provide training for those wanting to learn something new (including those doing professional placements or volunteer programs including the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme).

The AGHS Museum is the only museum of its kind in Australia that is open to the public all year round. Our collection is of national significance and gives a fascinating insight into Australia's golfing history. Visit today!

Emma Williams
Museum Curator



www.facebook.com/pages/Australian-Golf-Heritage-Society-Museum



President's Report



This year The AGHS has been fortunate in securing increased funding from Golf NSW and the PGA, which has enabled us to increase the hours of our Museum Curator Emma Williams. This has allowed Emma to embark on a number of projects, which include facilitating the preservation of The Museum's exhibits and significantly, the restoration and conservation of our collection of books. In this regard she has also applied for Federal funding for a full assessment of our library which is destined to become a feature of The Museum. The AGHS recently ran a Museum Open Day as part of the 2013 National Trust Heritage Festival. The day included a demonstration of traditional club making techniques by Edgar Oakman and a talk on PGA history by Tom Moore. It is also planned to assemble a small travelling Museum Exhibition which can be loaned to golf clubs and other museums. In 2013, in addition to the Society's previous tent exhibitions at The Australian Open, Tom Moore has attended both the NSW Ladies Open at Oatlands and the Australian Ladies Open at Royal Canberra with considerable interest being shown in the hickory clubs and clubmaking techniques which resulted in an impromptu segment on ABC television. Tom has also been able to acquire the services of Australian player Sarah Kemp as an ambassador for the Society. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Tom and his assistants for the time and effort that they provide to these exhibitions.

The Society has recently commenced an Oral History Project and so far Patron Dan Cullen, DFC, along with Edgar Oakman and Tom Moore have been interviewed. Golf NSW recently presented the AGHS with a CD of the golfing experiences of 1934 Australian Amateur Champion Tom McKay, which was recorded in 2002 just prior to his passing. These mediums provide an important part of the overall memorabilia of our golfing history and heritage to complement and add perspective to the collection of our material items of clubs and balls, photographs and artefacts.

On the golf scene The AGHS was very honoured to be invited to assist The Moore Park and Centennial Park Trust in their celebration of their Centenary with a Hickory Day and dinner with 48 competitors in attendance including our 2012 Hickory Champion Alan Grieve (*see report*).

The Australian Golf Heritage Society, like all such groups, relies not only on your membership, but also on members participating and contributing to the objectives of the Society. It offers the opportunity for members to be involved directly in activities of the Society and to apply the resources of the Society to your own clubs by way of preparation of a club history, a display of golfing memorabilia or playing in a hickory club golf event. I commend you to utilise and enjoy your association with the AGHS.

Bruce Nairn
Chairman

The Golf Museum at Granville is proudly sponsored by Golf Mart and supported by Golf NSW, PGA of Australia and Museums & Galleries New South Wales
The Golf Museum (located above Golf Mart), 4 Parramatta Rd, Granville
Telephone 9637 4720 • www.australiangolfheritage.org.au
Open on Sundays from 10am to 4pm. Admission FREE.

The Museum can give advice on collecting, restoring and preserving old or antique golf clubs and other golfing artefacts.

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Patrons

Dan Cullen
Kel Nagle
Margery McWilliam OAM

Management Committee

Bruce Nairn,
President & Chairperson
Mal Bray, *Captain*
John Lock, *Secretary*
Malcolm McIntosh, *Treasurer*
Tom Moore, *Museum*
Tony Doggett
Steve Doorey

Editor of The Brassie
Gerry Bush

Newsletter design & artwork
Thomas Winter

Event Results

Craigieburn Cup, 30th September 2012- Craigieburn

Hickory Cup winner: Peter Read (Muirfield) 70

Runner up: Malcolm Murray (Muirfield) 72

Handicap: Tony Doggett (Liverpool) 58 c/b

Runner up: Rex McKay (Port Kembla) 58

Ladies: Anne Murray (Moss Vale) 64

Runner up: Leonnie Henry (Muirfield) 65

Al Howard Trophy, 18th March – Yowani Golf Club

Australian Golf Heritage Society (19) *defeated*

Australian Golf Society (9)



Al Howard Putter (12 holes), 12th April - Kiama GC
Stableford

Mens Winner: Tom Moore 21 points

Ladies Winner: Leigh Steel 19 points

Best dressed Man: Rob Downie

Best dressed Lady: Patricia Wilson



Dan Cullen Trophy, 15th April - Long Reef Golf Club
2 Ball Ambrose

Winners: Martin Pickrell (18) & Tony Pickrell (17) 38½

Scratch: Rob Downie & Tom Moore 43

Museum Facts

A Pristine box of 1.62 Dunlop "65" Golf Balls from the 1960's. Each ball individually boxed and wrapped in tissue paper numbered 1 to 12. After WW II Slazenger Australia set out to produce a top class golf ball. This resulted in the B51 being launched "BEFORE 1951" hence its name. This ball was developed and improved until it became possibly the best 1.62" ball in the world. Slazenger were taken over by Dunlop and went on to make both the B51 and Dunlop 65 named after Henry Cotton's great round of 65 in the 1937 British Open.

Centenary of Golf Hickory Day at MOORE PARK - Friday, 24 May 2013

In February, The Australian Golf Heritage Society jumped at the chance to organise a Hickory Day at Moore Park when invited by The Centennial and Moore Park Trust. This was to be part of the celebrations planned to mark 100 years since golf was first played at Moore Park. The date set, Friday May 24, was exactly 100 years since the first shot was played. At that time, at the behest of Sydney City Council, a 9 hole course was laid out by legendary golf professional, Carnegie Clark, on the flat opposite where the Bat and Ball Hotel now stands.

Organisation for the event began immediately proposing a light luncheon in the historic Moore Park Clubhouse at 12 noon, followed at 2 pm by a 2 ball 9 hole Ambrose event over the Moore Park back nine, using the practice green as the 10th hole. The weather in the weeks leading up to the event was glorious with temperatures hovering around the mid twenties, however on the Tuesday before the event it turned sour with a predicted deluge on the Wednesday Thursday and Friday mornings. The rain, very heavy at times, threatened to see the event cancelled, however Friday dawned fairly bright with only light showers up until mid morning.

Fifty players and officials sat down to lunch in the clubhouse. Society member, Peter Read, introduced Kim Ellis, CEO Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust, who welcomed all to the Centenary celebrations and set out some of the plans the Trust has for this historic site. He congratulated the AGHS on their efforts to preserve and protect the history of golf in Australia. Mr Ellis then called on the NSW Minister for Sport, Graham Annesley, who spoke of the importance of sport in the community and in particular the contribution that golf continued to make as a whole of life pastime.

Al Howard OAM turns 100

PGA of Australia Life Member and OAM recipient Al Howard recently - 8th May 2013 - celebrated his 100th birthday surrounded by friends and family in Collaroy Plateau. The oldest living PGA member, Al joined the PGA in 1931, following in the footsteps of his esteemed father Tom, who won an Australian Open (1923), and two Australian Professional titles (1924, 1925).

Al went on to a long and distinguished career as a tournament player, club professional, course designer, golf columnist, television presenter and author, and was awarded the Order of Australia medal in the Queen's Birthday Honours List in 1994.

After lunch 38 starters played in the Ambrose event during what turned out to be a perfect afternoon with no rain at all. The course was set up especially to suit our hickory clubs and everyone enjoyed the experience.

Results

Winners Mixed -

Martyn Black and Katrina Brown (5) net 32

Runners up Mixed -

Jill and Rob Downie (9¾) net 33¼

Member/Member -

Peter Read and Tony Pickrell (5¼) net 31¼

Runners up Member/Member -

Alan Grieve and Jim Glenday (5) net 32

Scratch -

Michael Sheret and Steve Bonner 40

Nearest the Pin Men (15th hole) - Tony Pickrell

Long Drive Men (18th hole) - Luke Kavanagh

Long Drive Ladies (18th hole) - Marg Naylor

Best Dressed Man - Luke Kavanagh

Best Dressed Lady - Jane Buckley

This day could not have been the success it was without the dedicated help of Peter Read, Emma Williams, John Lock, Richard Beer, Tony Doggett and Norm Richardson and my thanks are extended to them on behalf of myself and the AGHS. A letter of thanks has been sent to Mr. Kim Ellis with a suggestion that this day might be made an annual event in both the Moore Park and AGHS calendars.

Tom Moore

Coming Events

2013 Fixtures

2013 Show and Tell

25th July 2013 at 2.00 p.m.

Rosnay Golf Club, 5 Weymouth Ave, Auburn

9 hole Individual Handicap Stableford Event

\$25 for Golf and Dinner

Contact: Tom Moore 9871 2798

Bobby Locke Trophy Qualifying

15th August 2013 at 12.noon

Rosnay Golf Club, 5 Weymouth Ave, Auburn

18 hole Stroke

\$25 including refreshments

Contact: Tom Moore 9871 2798

Craigieburn Cup

8th September 2013 (*Details to be advised*)

Liverpool Hickory Day

22nd September 2013 at 3.00 p.m.

Liverpool Golf Club, Hollywood Drive, Lansvale

9 hole Individual Handicap Stableford Event

Contact: Tony Doggett on (02) 9639 2849

Australian Hickory Shaft Championships The Annual Championships of The Society

22nd November 2013 11.00 a.m.

Carnarvon Golf Club, 65 Nottinghill Rd, Lidcombe

18 hole Stroke

\$40 Golf and dinner (*\$10 for Club Hire*)

WANTED

E. O'Brien Hickory Club

Top price paid

Contact: Norman Richardson

norman.e.richardson@gmail.com

Mobile: 0407 906 199