

The Brassie

~ Encourage the collection, recording and preservation of information that is connected to the history of golf in Australia,
 ~ Verify the authenticity of physical items associated with the history of golf in Australia and provide a means of storing, restoring and displaying these physical items,
 ~ Inform golfers, golf clubs, and the wider community of this information and display these items in a manner which tells their story, and
 ~ Promote hickory events as a celebration of the origins of the game.

September 2017

President's Report

- John Buckley



I have recently—with the support of the Committee—invited Hugh Jolly to fill the casual vacancy on our Committee. For those who do not know Hugh I have taken the liberty of giving a brief resume of his interest in the history of the game of golf.

Hugh's interest in the history began through his father. A golf tragic who himself learnt to play golf in Elie in

Scotland. His parents met at St Andrews in 1938 and Hugh spent his first eleven summer holidays at St Andrews and learnt to play golf from the age of eight. To quote Hugh "golf has been a part of my life for all of it."

Upon retirement he was able to return to his sporting love, golf and its history.

Some eighteen months ago Hugh was invited to join the Heritage Sub Committee at Royal Sydney. He is currently working on a project to record and document the evolution of the Championship Course.

I strongly believe Hugh will be a great asset to our committee.

All aspects of the Society's activities are moving in a positive direction with the exception of our membership. We do need

more members, so anything our current members can do to help would be appreciated. Any current members who have yet to renew their subscriptions can find details on how to do this at the bottom of page 11 in this issue.

The museum is progressively looking more and more presentable thanks to the untiring work of the subcommittee, but unfortunately visitation is not increasing.

This issue features two extended articles by Society members—'Early Golf in Queensland' by Norman Richardson and 'A Short History of the Kiama Golf Club' by Andrew Wilson. Norm's impeccably researched articles have been a feature of these pages over a number of years. Andrew's piece is his debut effort, and is complemented by Ross Howard's Kiama recollections on his 'Golf Architecture' page. I commend these pieces to you, and challenge all of our members to put pen to paper and contribute to 'The Brassie'.

The month of September marks the start of our three busiest months from a hickory play point of view. This month, we have the Craigieburn Cup at the Peppers Craigieburn Resort at Bowral, and the Australian Hickory Shaft Championship at the picturesque, challenging and hickory-friendly Long Reef layout. October hosts the annual Al Howard Memorial Trophy challenge against the Golf Society of Australia, and the Muirfield Hickory Day.

The undoubted highlights of November are the Queensland Hickory Shaft Championships—Stroke and Foursomes over the Royal Queensland and Brisbane club layouts on Friday and Sunday respectively, with a 'social' four-ball event at Nudgee on the Saturday. We are looking forward to all of these events being unqualified successes, and encourage members to make every effort to participate wherever they can.

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A Short History of the Kiama Golf Club

- Andrew Wilson

The Early Days

Golf is thought to have started at Kiama around 1903 with a 3-hole course at Chapman's Point, between Kendall's Beach and the Kiama Surf Beach. The earliest known written record comes from the history of the NSW Ladies' Golf Union (LGU), which shows that Kiama joined the LGU in 1905.



Miss Nell Caird in 1907.

A Kiama lady, Miss Nell Caird, was runner up in the inaugural NSW Ladies' Country Championship in 1906., and went on to win the NSW Ladies' Amateur Championship in 1909. A photo of her in 1907 appears to have been taken outside the basalt stone walls of Hartwell House, a historic building on Chapman Point built by her great uncle Thomas Chapman in 1874.

The original course was located near the Kendall's Beach rifle range. Apparently there were enough stray bullets to encourage the golfers to seek an alternate site, and a new 6-hole course was established to the south west where the high school now stands. In time, this location was also to become unviable for reasons which are not well known today.

Meanwhile, two young boys from Grafton NSW, Sam and Alan Boyd, were bequeathed a dairy farm at Minnamurra, 6km to the north of Kiama. Their father Cyril decided to move

to the farm and commence farming. Cyril was also a keen golfer and carved out a few holes for himself on the property. When he became aware of the golf club's problem, he offered them the use of this land, for a rental of 10/- per week.

Both Sam and Alan Boyd were to go on and serve lengthy terms as club president in the 1960s and 70s. Sadly, Alan died in office in 1972.

Around 1932 the club set about building a new course at the Minnamurra site. They engaged the services of Eric Apperley to design a 9-hole course and built it with volunteer labour using horse drawn equipment made available by Cyril Boyd. The March 1935 issue of *Golf in Australia* reported on the official opening of the new course.

Mr W J Rumble, President of the Suburban and Country Golf Association of NSW, officiated at the opening. It was reported that "Mr Rumble did not— as is so often the case on such occasions — fozzle when he drove what was officially the first ball. He played a splendid shot, which easily carried the water hazard and travelled well beyond".

The course opening featured a match between Eric Apperley and two local players: T James, a 19-year-old from Nowra and W Brandon from Wollongong, the South Coast Champion. After 18 holes, Messrs Apperley and Brandon both returned a score of 79 on the par 72 layout, with Mr James a shot further back. Eric Apperley prevailed in the ensuing sudden death playoff after 3 holes.

Around 1934, the first greenkeeper was employed. His name was Ken Tate, and as former caddy Evan Evans recalled "... he was also the caddy master, who controlled us boys and kept us in our place, and we had our individual or permanent places. I caddied for the same bloke for some years..."

Other caddies were Harry Cowling, Jackie Oates, Jackie Jordan and Billy Moss. The boys were not allowed to play golf on the course, so they devised their own course with jam tins around the houses in Minnamurra. One day the boys were having their club championship and were late for their caddy duties. The boys explained why they were late and from then on were allowed to play on the course.

Course maintenance in the early days was carried out largely with volunteer labour and primitive equipment. Fairways were mowed with a horse drawn gang mower until as Evan Evans tells us:

A Short History of the Kiama Golf Club (cont.)

"We improved on this a bit. In about 1946 we got an old 1920 model Buick motor car that our president in those days Gerry Alphick found in a shed out at Jamberoo and we got it going again. That was a bit better than the horse drawn but it went a bit too fast, thrashed the mowers to pieces and consequently we had to spend a lot of time replacing and repairing mowers."

Presumably the fairway grass was also kept short by the Boyd cattle grazing on the course. The greens were protected by fences, a reasonably common feature of golf courses at that time.

Two local doctors, Dr Stephen and Dr Corner, were foundation members and keen golfers. A system of flags at the club house was devised for calling the doctors. A red flag on the flag pole meant there was a call for Dr Stephen, for Dr Corner it was a green flag. The caddies would wait wherever the golf game was up to, until the doctor returned to continue his game.

Golf was discontinued during the war years from 1942 to 1945. During this time, the club kept going through the use of the hall for socials, with much encouragement from Dr

Stephen and Cyril Boyd. The women would bring a plate and the men paid 4/-. The socials continued until the mid 1960s.

After the war the game of golf was restored and the club progressed. By all accounts the old 9-hole course was an excellent test of golf. Early records showed par as 72, although a card from the 1950s shows Kiama as 6,216 yards par 70. Perhaps the 260 yard par 3 third hole was played as a par 4 in the early days?

A "professional purse" tournament was played at Kiama during the 1950s and 60s. The 1959 winner was Billy Dunk, with scores of 66 and 74. His morning round was a course record on the old 9 hole layout. It was also the first ever course record by the man who was to go on and set a record for the number of course records.

The Growth Years

As the club continued to grow into the 1950s, it became obvious that the 9-hole layout would be inadequate into the future. One option under consideration was to build more holes on the other side of the railway line where the Minnamurra Public School and Links, Beach, River and Boyd Streets now stand. This idea lost favour because of the



The course in the 1960s—shortly after its extension to 18 holes.

A Short History of the Kiama Golf Club (cont.)

danger of crossing the train line. Another was to extend to the south into Boyd's Farm, now Kiama Downs. Cost was also a consideration.

Golf course designer Al Howard was engaged to advise on the proposed extensions, and he determined that a suitable 18-hole layout could be established on the existing 64 acres, between the railway line and the highway. Mr Howard designed and oversaw construction of the new course (ably assisted by son Ross, the rest of the family and Taffy the dog), with work completed in 1961. With one or two minor changes, the par 66 layout remains essentially the same today, with a few more trees.

Around 1964 the land was purchased from the Boyd family for £10,000.00 – well below market value, but still a considerable outlay for the small club. Times were tight for a while. Fortunately the manager of the Commonwealth Bank was also president of the golf club. As Evan Evans recalls:

“Bill Trothan was the manager of the Commonwealth Bank for quite a few years. He did a fine job as far as finance is concerned. He kept everything on an even keel and all the spendthrifts, he kept them under control.”

Funds for the land purchase were raised by issuing voluntary debentures to club members. In 1972 the club became incorporated. By then it was in a healthy enough position to buy back the debentures.

The sandy soil on which the course is based was both a blessing and a curse. It provided links like playing conditions and a wonderful ability to recover from wet weather but got very dry when the rain didn't come. Early each summer a row of white pegs would appear across the course. It was teeing up north of the pegs. A month or so later the pegs disappeared, and teeing up was on through the green.

Until the 1970s, water was obtained from spear points around the course and town water. There was enough for tees and greens, but the fairways relied on rain. In the late 1970s, the new subdivision at Gainsborough was developed. It was the first fully sewered land in Kiama, and the treated sewage had to be disposed of. The developer arranged to pipe the water to the nearby golf course where the members were levied \$40.00 each to cover the cost of a fully automated fairway watering system. Now there was a permanent supply of water for the entire golf course!

In the early days the only trees of any note were several established eucalypts at the northern end of the course. Attempts to grow trees elsewhere on the course met with little success in the often dry conditions. This changed when the fairway watering was introduced. A large batch of low priced

Radiata Pine seedlings was procured, and green staff and volunteers set about lining the fairways. The pines thrived in the now moist conditions. Over the next 20 years the course was transformed from a wide open links style layout to one with tree lined fairways putting a premium on accuracy.

One of the great characters at Kiama during the 1950s, 60s and 70s was Brian “Darky” Cardwell. Brian was a golfer of some ability, the 1959 club championship being among his many achievements. He also served as club captain in 1967-68. In 1963 however, he was less than impressed with the pennant team selected at the time. A man proud of his indigenous heritage, Brian declared that he could “pick a team of blackfellas to beat that lot”.

The challenge was laid and a match was arranged between the pennant team and Darky's selection of nominally indigenous players. Unfortunately for him the pennant team was victorious, but it was the birth of a tradition which continues to this day. The “Blacks vs Whites” annual match day is now one of the premier events in Kiama's golfing calendar, enjoyed by large teams representing both sides. It was to be 1978 before the Blacks finally won a match (the first of many). Sadly, Brian “Darky” Cardwell was no longer around to enjoy the moment.

During the late 1980s and early 90s, with golf booming and fledgling clubs at Shellharbour, Jamberoo and Gerringong barely established, Kiama enjoyed record numbers of golfers. Playing membership numbered well over 1,000 and competition for tee times became stiff. One outcome of this was the Wednesday competition controversy of 1990.

For many years the ladies (“associates”) had been conducting their weekly competition on Wednesdays. A few of the men, who drove their wives to the course, started having a hit themselves. This grew into a men's competition, which hit off before and after the ladies' tee time. With the small fields of the day it was very manageable and convenient.

By 1989, the Wednesday field size had grown to the point that tee times were hard to get, and the board took a decision to move the ladies' competition to Thursday. Needless to say, this prompted an angry response from the ladies, who felt that they owned Wednesdays.

The women complained to the anti-discrimination board, and the story hit the local press in January 1990. One local paper reported that they had “threatened to force their member husbands to support their stand, or move into the spare bedroom”, although this claim was disputed by some ladies. A threat to lie down on the 1st green was also suggested.

A Short History of the Kiama Golf Club (cont.)

The board was forced to compromise, and a medley competition was introduced on Thursdays with an attractive prize pool. A large number of men, and a few ladies, took up Thursday golf, and the pressure went off Wednesdays. Wednesday remains the premier ladies' competition with a small men's comp also running. There was a sting though – associate memberships disappeared and lady golfers now pay for full membership.

In 2001 the board received an approach from a developer, with a proposal to build a new course on Jamberoo Road, and subdivide some or all of the existing course. Since lack of space had long been an issue for the course, the board took the proposal seriously and invited the developer to prepare a detailed proposal to submit to the members.

Before long news leaked out and a storm of protest ensued. Golfers and non-golfers who liked the course where it was and how it was quickly became organised into groups campaigning against the move. Things were threatening to get ugly. A detailed proposal had yet to be formulated, so the board called an extraordinary general meeting to debate and vote on whether to continue to develop the proposal.

An extremely well attended and lively meeting was held at the Kiama Showground Pavilion. The motion to allow the developer to continue preparation of a proposal was soundly defeated, and life at Kiama Golf Club was able to settle back into its usual harmonious state.

In 2005 Kiama Golf Club celebrated its centenary. No one knew when golf had started in Kiama, but the first written reference to Kiama Golf Club appeared in the records of the NSW Ladies' Golf Union, which showed that Kiama joined the LGU in 1905. With clear evidence of a golf club at least 100 years ago, the centenary was celebrated in some style throughout 2005. One feature was a pair of club flags, which a well connected club member managed to get signed by most if not all of the players on the USPGA tour.

The Present Day

In 2017 Kiama Golf Club is a thriving golfing and social hub for the Kiama Downs – Minnamurra area. There are some 700 golfing members and 2,000 social members. The active clubhouse scene helps to generate a modest but steadily increasing profit which would be the envy of many golf clubs.



The northern end of the course in 1982.

A Short History of the Kiama Golf Club (cont.)

On the course, the pine trees have reached maturity and represent a considerable challenge to golfers. They also represent something of a challenge to Course Superintendent Mark Yates, as trees start to die out. As organised as ever, Mark is implementing a gradual program of removal and replacement. The new species are predominantly Box Brush, so a subtle change of character is occurring.

Meanwhile the greens, tees and fairways are immaculately presented. Water now comes from the Bombo sewerage treatment works, after a hiatus of several years when the Gainsborough plant closed. A bonus for golf course business is its excellent all weather properties. Golfers from around the district are attracted to Kiama whenever their home course is badly affected by wet conditions.

The clubhouse has undergone multiple cycles of renovation over the years. Vestiges of a much earlier clubhouse can still be found under the building, but outwardly patrons are presented with a modern facility offering bar, dining and gaming with a commanding view over the golf course. General Manager David Rootham and the Board are considering the next round of improvements.

Since 2012, the Kiama Golf Club has also hosted the Kiama Hickory Challenge. Generally held in early May, this event competes—as far as dates are concerned—with the equally well organised and run J. J. Paine event at Windsor as the first serious hickory event of the AGHS year. Competition is over the 18 holes of Kiama in an individual Stableford event for the perpetual 'Al Howard Putter' trophy, a handsomely mounted . . . Al Howard hickory shafted putter. Disregard this

event at your absolute peril—it is great fun, and hotly contested!

A Note on Sources

The events recorded above have been obtained from a variety of written records and anecdotes. Much is derived from a transcript of a talk given by Evan Evans to Kiama Downs Probus Club in 1994. Evan was one of the original caddies on the Minnamurra course, and continued as a golfing member until the 1990s.

Another valuable source was Margaret Boyd, who grew up on the farm adjacent to the Boyd property and was married to former president Alan Boyd. Margaret is a life member who played golf as a junior at Kiama and went on to collect 28 ladies' championship titles between 1948 and 1995 as well as 13 ladies foursomes and 16 mixed foursomes.

Other sources include club records, press and other publications and information collected when the club celebrated its centenary in 2005.



The view from the clubhouse on a typical Kiama day.

Captain's Report

"To the Fore" - Ross Howard

Hi to all AGHS members and readers of The Brassie.

Whilst we are coming into the major competition period for the year, the regular monthly hickory games have been suffering from lack of numbers and in some cases have had to be postponed.

I would like to hear from members if you think we are trying to play too many hickory events, or if you feel the timing is wrong in terms of the day of the week / month. Please let me know so I can modify the 2018 schedule.

In this current month (September) we have the Craigieburn Cup on Sunday 17th and I urge you to make the trip to the Southern Highlands to play in this event, where we hit off at 12 noon, and play 18 holes with a scratch and handicap event.

It is a great little course with the original 100-year-old layout intact and the nine greens "attacked" from 18 tees. Next year will be the centenary of the event and we would like to see a good field for this year as a prelude to the 2018 event.

Also on the following Thursday 21st, the Australian Hickory Shaft Championship will be played at Long Reef Golf Club on Sydney's Northern Beaches. Please ensure you download the entry form from our website and lodge as required. We look forward to seeing a big field contest this highlight of our playing events.

Hopefully as an "a la Augusta Masters" tribute we will have several past winners of the event and other prominent golfers hit off at the start of the event to celebrate the 22nd playing of the event.

Over recent weeks the Foxtel Golf Show with Andrew Daddo have been filming players using hickories and if the planets align we may see the film crew at Long Reef on 21st. The segment is due to be shown in October, we will keep you informed as the scheduled time & date.

In October, 17th & 18th we will be hosting the Al Howard Memorial Trophy event over two days in the ACT and the Golf Society of Australia have already indicated they are keen to defend the trophy they won in 2016.

The event will be played on the Royal Canberra and Queanbeyan courses over the two days with individual match play on the first day and then a team match event on the second. The results of both days will determine the 2017 holder. So, all you AGHS members I need players to

nominate for our team to wrest back the trophy this year.

As in past years the Society will be manning a tent at both the NSW and Australian Opens, so check your diaries and let us know if you can assist during those events.

As some of you will no doubt be aware discussions are taking place with a variety of parties contemplating the formation of National Heritage body. As the process unfolds we will keep the AGHS members informed accordingly.

So, in closing I look forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming events and wish you the best of scoring as we play with our beloved hickories.

Ross Howard

Captain

Dates for the Hickory Diary (NSW)

Sunday September 17th	Craigieburn Cup Peppers Craigieburn Bowral NSW
Thursday September 21st	Australian Hickory Shaft Championship Long Reef Golf Club Collaroy NSW
Tuesday 17th - Wednesday 18th October	Al Howard Trophy Royal Canberra Golf Club Yarralumla ACT & Queanbeyan Golf Club Queanbeyan NSW
Sunday October 29th	Four Ball Ambrose Muirfield Golf Club North Rocks NSW
Friday November 17th	Show & Tell Randwick Golf Club Malabar NSW

More complete details of events—as they come to hand—can be found at

www.australiangolfheritage.org.au/hickorynews.html

Golf Course Architecture

Unpaid junior apprentice course designer Ross Howard resumes his always entertaining recollections of the experiences of youth under the tutelage of his father, the renowned Australian course designer Al Howard.

The timing of the trips to Kiama in the Howard's 1958 FC Holden (Black over Cape Ivory) are forged in my memory by a number of events. One in particular being my brother's 5th birthday and his present being a Labrador male puppy from Griffith (from gundog trialling lineage) in the Riverina in November 1959.



1958 Holden FC Sedan—Black over Cape Ivory

Watching "Taffy" jump out of the car & head for the beach on the open fields that were Kiama Downs in those long-ago days, and then be distracted by a "good" smell and spend the next hour working the field, with not a house or building in sight was amazing for a city boy. The only problem was getting "Taffy" reasonable dry to return home on the nearly 3 hour trip in those days, nothing like a wet smelly dog for company in the car.

But even a wet dog smell was more than offset by the advantage of being a golf course designer's son and the opportunity to hone my driving skills on the piece of land that was to become the expanded Kiama layout.

Amazing to see the aerial photos taken in late 1940s, 1960s and today and the overlay compiled by Andrew Wilson. The actual site area whilst larger is certainly not double the original property by any means and few of the original 9-hole layout holes have remained intact.

Naturally the constraint of the site with railway line to the east and main south highway to the west determined the area available. Apart from my usual duties of working with Dad on the 66ft tape and measuring possible holes I was also allocated the task of hitting many drives off the proposed tee sites to determine dog leg corners and similar features. So, if

the current dog leg "points" are too short or long you can blame me !

Dad's criteria was quite demanding in some ways because only those balls that had ended up within a radius of 10 yards were allowed as the reference point. Now that was quite difficult for me at the time because my normal ball flight was a draw, okay on some proposed left-hand dogleg holes but not so on the right-hand doglegs, so I had to perfect a "power slice" on some proposed holes. Glad I was playing with steel shafts and persimmon heads in those days because today's graphite and 460cc heads tend to "straight" up drives.

A number of trips were made to the site, some with the whole family and Taffy and many more with just Dad and I. Usually the trip home was broken by a stop in Wollongong to a bite to eat & drink, but in those long-ago days finding an open milk bar did prove difficult after business hours.

Boy, are we spoilt today !

Ross Howard

The Australian Golf Heritage Society

Patrons

Frank Phillips
Charles Earp OAM (Queensland Chapter)

Management Committee

John Buckley — President
Ross Howard — Captain
Steve Doorey — Secretary-Treasurer
Tony Doggett
Tom Moore
Phil Baird
Gerry Bush
Hugh Jolly

Editors of The Brassie

Vicki Stanton Steve Doorey

Queensland Hickory Shaft Championships

3rd - 5th November 2017



Royal Queensland Golf Club hosts the 2017 Queensland Hickory Shaft Championships

On the 8th July 2011 half a dozen members gathered on the Royal Queensland golf links at Eagle Farm to play the first organised game of hickory golf at the club in nearly 90 years. From those humble beginnings players from around the world are now invited to participate in the 3rd



Royal Queensland
43 Curtain Ave West
Eagle Farm Qld 4009

07 3633 6500



Brisbane Golf Club
70 Tennyson Memorial Ave
Yeerongpilly Qld

07 3848 1008



ROYAL QUEENSLAND GOLF CLUB



Queensland Hickory Shaft Championship

18 holes of stroke play
Friday 3rd November 2017

Royal Queensland Golf Club, Curtain Ave West, Eagle Farm
12:30pm for 1:30pm tee off

Followed by presentations and dinner at 6:00pm
Cost (including two course dinner) \$60 cash on the day
Period golfing attire is encouraged

A limited number of period hickory sets are available for loan
Entries close: Tuesday 31st October 2017

Registration and enquiries: Andrew Baker: andrew@andrew-baker.com
0412 990 356

Queensland Hickory Foursomes Championship

18 holes of foursomes stroke play
Sunday 5th November 2017

Brisbane Golf Club, Tennyson Memorial Ave, Yeerongpilly
7:00am for 7:30am tee off

Followed by presentations and light luncheon at 12:00pm
Cost (including luncheon) \$35 cash on day
Period golfing attire is encouraged

A limited number of period hickory sets are available for loan
Entries close: Tuesday 31st October 2017

Registration and enquiries: Andrew Baker: andrew@andrew-baker.com
0412 990 356

Museum Report

- Vicki Stanton

Hunter's Hill Golf Club Records Book

In the last issue of *The Brassie*, we featured the Hunter's Hill Golf Club Records Book. The conservation of the Hunter's Hill Handicap Records Book by Preservation Australia has been completed. The whole book was cleaned and the loose fragments that had accumulated along the spine were carefully removed. Adhesive tape and sticky residue was removed from the front and light weight Japanese tissue and wheat starch paste was used to cover and strengthen the book.



Conservation work on the front cover of the book.

Exposed edges were strengthened with wheat starch paste.

The edges of the pages were repaired with document repair tape. Tears into pages were repaired using Japanese tissue and wheat starch paste. The book cloth of the spine was repaired from the inside with Japanese tissue and wheat starch paste. However, despite such extensive work it remains incredibly fragile.

The book was only in the museum for a very short time before going for digitisation at W & F Pascoe's. Digitisation will allow researchers to readily access information without the book being further damaged by handling. The digitised newspaper reports will be converted to searchable text

making research easier and more efficient.

Players	Points for year 1901-1902	Results
Allan	10	-5
Stanton	10	+4
Prood	11	+1
Buckland	7	+6
Blackland	2	sq.
Christoe	15	+28
Davy	9	+5
Fitzgerald	13	+7
Kilby	6	+2

An example of the delicate tissue repairs to pages edges.

This project is supported by Create NSW's Volunteer Museum Grant Program, a developed funding program administered by Museums & Galleries of NSW on behalf of the NSW Government.

More Grants!

The museum has been successful in receiving a \$2000 grant to purchase archival storage items and an additional Mosaic licence. Mosaic is the museum's collection management system which catalogues our objects. Another licence will mean that the work currently being done on updating object records can happen at an even faster pace.

The museum has also received funding through a Leg Up Grant for one of our Museum volunteers to undertake the Australian Society of Archivists' Keeping Archives course.

These projects are supported by Create NSW's Volunteer Museum Grant Program, a developed funding program administered by Museums & Galleries NSW on behalf of the NSW Government.

Colin De Groot Collection

Colin de Groot was a golf professional, outstanding amateur photographer, historian of the PGA and author of *Out of the Rough*. The museum holds a substantial collection of Colin's

Museum Report (Cont.)

memorabilia, photographs and research. We are currently transferring photographs and news clippings from the original albums into archival albums. On transferring the images, Colin's original order is being maintained to accurately preserve his legacy.

The self stick "magnetic" photo albums with PVC page overlays that were very popular in the 1960s, 70s and 80s contain acids in the paper and glue that can irreversibly damage photographs.

If you have any treasured photographs in these albums, the sooner you rehouse them in archival photo albums the better. Museums & Galleries of NSW provides an excellent information sheet [Caring for photographic collections](#) on its website which includes links to further resources.

Pending Acquisition

The museum is in the process of acquiring archives and objects from the Queensland branch of the PGA. The museum was fortunate to have access to this collection for the PGA Centenary exhibition in 2011.

Google Cultural Institute Exhibition

The museum had hoped to announce that our digital exhibition a part of Google Cultural Institute's Sports launch was up and running. However, it seems we are way ahead of other institutions and hopefully by the end of the year the Golf Museum will be online. See what can be done at Google Cultural Institute with this look at [The Football Museum](#).

Australian Society for Sports History Conference

Curator Vicki Stanton attended the museum day of the [Australian Society for Sports History Conference](#) co-hosted by the Sydney Cricket Ground and Rugby League Central.

Many sports museums, large and small, were in attendance and regardless of funding and visitation they all have similar concerns.

The program highlighted issues such as governance models, museum location, the core mission of sports museums and the burden and necessity of completed documentation and clear policies.

Dr Michael Sheret presented a paper at the conference, The First Golf Played in Australia.

Tommy's Honour

The museum has four double passes for the film *Tommy's Honour* to give away, courtesy of Transmission Films.

Tommy's Honour is based on the true story of the challenging relationship between 'Old' Tom and 'Young' Tommy Morris, the father-son team who ushered in the modern game of golf.

At first matching his father's success, Tommy's talent and fame grew to outshine his father's accomplishments and respect as founder of the Open Championship in 1860 with a series of his own triumphs. In contrast to Tommy's public persona, his personal turmoil ultimately led him to rebel against both the aristocracy who gave him opportunity and the parents who shunned his passionate relationship with his wife.

The film recently won the Best Feature Film award at the British Academy Scotland Awards, you can view the trailer on YouTube by following [this link](#).

The film will be released nationwide and the passes are valid in every state except Tasmania. The film will be screening predominantly at Palace cinema locations in each state from 7 September. If you would like a pass, [email the museum](#) with your name and postal address. First in, best dressed!

2017-18 Membership

Annual membership renewal subscriptions are due as at 1 July each year. Any Society member who has not yet renewed their membership is still most welcome to do so. Membership remains at \$30-00 per annum, and payment options are:

By cheque:

The Treasurer
Australian Golf Heritage Society Inc.
299A Epsom Rd
CHIPPING NORTON NSW 2170

OR

By EFT:

Commonwealth Bank
BSB: **062-692**
Account Number: **25203687**
(Please include remitter name with your payment)

Early Golf in Queensland

Norman Richardson

It is traditionally accepted that the introduction of golf to Queensland was by brothers Alexander and Francis Ivory at Eidsvold Station, in the Burnett District of Central Queensland in the early 1880s.¹ Stanthorpe, in South East Queensland, during the 1870s is sometimes suggested as a possible earlier site for golf.² New research into these claims supports the former and suggests a later date for the latter.

The earliest Australian golfing reference of the Ivory Brothers is published in the Brisbane Courier in 1932.³ The report claimed that "the Ivories were keen golfers and having brought their clubs from Scotland" and that they laid down a course of a few holes around their homestead. Evidence is claimed in the form of some of their old irons which could be seen at the station where they were in the possession of one of the later owners of Eidsvold Station Mr Fitzpierce Joyce. Further information was provided in another newspaper report in 1934 when Mr Joyce is now Vice-President of the newly formed Eidsvold Golf Club. The report mentions Mr Joyce having the Ivory's two old clubs that were at least 50 years old.⁴

Although these claims have often been repeated no new information regarding their golf play has come to light since.

Who were the Ivory Brothers and what other evidence is there of them as golfers?

Alexander Lawrie (Laurie) Ivory (1819-1907) and Francis Jeffery Ivory (1831-1896) were two of four sons of James Ivory FRSE, Lord Ivory, a senior Scottish judge and Solicitor General for Scotland and his wife Ann Lawrie.⁵ Both brothers



Alexander Laurie Ivory
Image courtesy of Picture Ipswich, Ipswich City Council

were born in Edinburgh and educated at the Edinburgh Academy.⁶ By the time of the 1851 census Alexander was a merchant residing at Holland Place, Kensington, London, while Francis was apprenticed as a Writer of the Signet and living with his eldest brother Thomas at 9 Ainslie Place, Edinburgh. Francis, having not pursued a career in law joined another brother James at Eskdale Station, near Ipswich, Queensland, in 1853.⁷



Francis Jeffery Ivory
Image courtesy of Picture Ipswich, Ipswich City Council

Although it is most likely the Ivory brothers had played their first games of golf in Edinburgh, the first documented evidence is of Alexander becoming a member of The Blackheath GC, in April, 1854.⁸ Alexander arrived in Australia on the *Columbian* in 1857,⁹ after he and Francis had acquired the Eidsvold Station in 1856. The eldest Ivory brother Thomas, an advocate still in Edinburgh, joined the Royal and Ancient GC, St Andrews in 1858.¹⁰

In 1868 Francis visited Scotland and on that trip spent time golfing at St Andrews where he was admitted as a member of the Royal and Ancient GC at the autumn meeting on the 7th October.¹¹ Francis arrived back in Australia on the *Kalkoura* on the 20th of December, 1868.¹² Francis would represent the Burnett District in the Queensland Legislative Assembly from 1873-78 and the Queensland Legislative Council from 1879-81, he was appointed clerk assistant in the Queensland Assembly in 1881.¹³

The evidence shows that the Ivory Brothers were golfers both before and during their time at Eidsvold Station, and the clubs in the possession of Mr Joyce in the 1930s could have been brought to Queensland as early as 1850s or possibly as late

Early Golf in Queensland (cont.)

as 1868 when Francis returned to Eidsvold from Scotland. Therefore it is likely they may have been playing golf earlier than that date normally considered.

Further evidence of golf play in this period is in an 1882 newspaper where it was reported "an attempt is being made in Maryborough to form a 'hockey, shinty or golf club' for the benefit of middle aged men."¹⁴ The reference to middle aged men leaves little doubt it would be a golf club, hockey and shinty being vigorous sport for younger men. Unfortunately no names were mentioned, however Maryborough was the main township nearest Eidsvold Station and from where Francis would travel by coastal steamer to Brisbane for Parliament. He also had a son attend the Maryborough Grammar School. This may be the source for the attributed date of the early 1880s for the Ivory Brothers golf at Eidsvold, although most likely the date derives from Mr Joyce in 1934 describing the clubs as being at least fifty years old.

There is therefore enough evidence to make it mostly likely golf was played by the Ivory Brothers at Eidsvold Station, more evidence particularly primary source if it was to come to light would be most helpful to confirm the claim and be more precise of exactly when.

There is little justification for the vague 1870s claim of golf in the Stanthorpe area. The earliest reference so far found for this claim is from *The Genesis of Sport in Queensland* authored by Reet A. Howell and Maxwell L. Howell, published in 1992. A section is on golf and after referring to the Ivory Brothers, the authors write:-

If the early 1880s is the accepted date, then it is possible that there was an earlier course in the Stanthorpe area, as there was a golf course on the McGregor Estate and players "drove off from a tee in Bridge Street just N→ E→ of the hospital also part of the racecourse".¹³² The race course that is referred to is one that was utilised in the mid-1870s.

Fortunately this work is well referenced and endnote number 132 provides the source, page 158 of *They Came to a Plateau: The Stanthorpe Saga* by Jean Harslett and Merwyn Royle reproduced below,

Prior to the acquisition of the McGregor Estate by Archibald, Symes Denham and others from Mr. M.J. O'Mara and through the latter's generosity, the land was used for the first golf course. Players drove off from a tee in Bridge Street just N.E. of the hospital also part of the racecourse. Then the Golf Club lagged until Mrs. Burt and her daughters made a concerted effort to recommence it, and a new course (beyond the housing on the McGregor Estate, north of Lock and west of Archibald Streets) was laid out. This land was also on loan from Mr. O'Mara and not until many years later was the Golf Course made on the present site.

As can be seen *The Genesis of Sport in Queensland* information up until the endnote number 132 is directly from *They Came to a Plateau: The Stanthorpe Saga*, however this book doesn't claim 1870s as the date, the additional

information in the latter book together with contemporary newspaper reports provide clues to dismiss the 1870s claim.

The first important clue is of the Golf Club that used the course in Bridge St 'lagging' until Mrs Burt and her daughters recommenced golf in Stanthorpe. In 1908 a Golf Club was formed in Stanthorpe. The foundation meeting approved of the laying out of a golf course.¹⁵ By the following year the club had thirty members.¹⁶ After this report there is no mention in Queensland newspapers using the National Library of Australia's Trove search engine of a Golf Club in Stanthorpe. That is until 1913 when Mrs Burt is the driving force in formation of a new Stanthorpe GC. At the foundation meeting the club decided to proceed with laying out of links, with input from Mr E.H. Macartney MLA, a member of the Brisbane GC.¹⁷ The new links were officially opened in February, 1913 by His Excellency, the Governor, Sir William MacGregor, and who gave the honour of driving the first ball to Mrs Burt, who Sir William acknowledged the club were under great obligation to.¹⁸ This Club appears to have folded during WW1.

A new Stanthorpe Golf Club was formed in 1921 playing on either side of the Quartz Pot Creek, within three minutes walking distance of the Post Office.¹⁹ In 1922 the Club decided purchase property known as O'Mara's Paddock.²⁰ However the sale may not have been finalised as discussion took place to decide between this property and the use of the racecourse.²¹ In 1923 the club purchased 100 acres of land from Miss Seaman to the north of town and laid out a new course.²² Miss Seaman is the next clue as to what may have caused the confusion with dates in *The Genesis of Sport in Queensland*, as this land was the location of the first racecourse, from *They Came to a Plateau: The Stanthorpe Saga* is the following, using the then current golf course as a current reference location:-

The first Race Course in Stanthorpe was near Mt. Marlay situated on what later became Miss Seaman's property, near the Golf Course. It was not a popular track, horses often being bogged on it.

Golf professional M.T. Stafford laid out a course on this land after preliminary work done by the club's professional J.Purkiss.²³ The chronology outlined corresponds with the account given by the local historians who authored *They Came to a Plateau: The Stanthorpe Saga*, and therefore the date of the first course laid out by the Golf Club which lagged was 1908 and not the 1870s.

It is noted that Ravenshoe, one hundred thirty kilometres west of Innisfail, has been claimed to have formed the first Golf Club in Queensland in 1893.²⁴ No evidence of any such a club has yet been found, and would had to have been formed in a tiny window from the 1st to the 3rd of January.

Early Golf in Queensland (cont.)

The first evidence for a Golf Club in Queensland is for the 4th January, 1893. The meeting took place at the Imperial Hotel, Townsville. It used the name the North Queensland Golf Club until changing to The Townsville Golf Club in 1924. The clubs history *Townsville Golf Club Centennial History* appears well referenced and because of this it is assumed accurate. It should be noted though that the club doesn't have club records prior to 1927.²⁵

A Gympie GC was formed on the 27th March, 1895. Mr W. Davies was appointed President and a committee formed. Subscriptions were set at 10 shillings and 6 pence per annum. The Hon. Secretary was instructed to write to the Melbourne GC for a copy of their rules, and steps taken to order clubs.²⁶ The club played at Queen's Park.²⁷

In early 1896 an 'association' of golfers began playing in Brisbane at Kinellan links on the Kinellan Estate owned by Hon. John Sargent Turner MLC at New Farm. His son Captain Leonard Haslewood Turner formed the association and the members played regularly on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Among the other members were Lord Lamington, Sir Samuel Griffith, Frank V. Murphy, A.C. Saltmarsh, Major John Byron, Percy Matthews, P. Griffith and C. Gore. The lady members included Mrs Byron, Miss Thompson and Miss Griffith.²⁸ Out of this group Leonard Turner and Percy Matthews were present at the inaugural meeting of the Brisbane GC and Lord Lamington, Leonard Turner, A.C. Saltmarsh, Major Byron and Sir Samuel Griffith were all elected members prior to The Brisbane GC playing their first game at Chelmer.²⁹ While Frank Murphy was elected onto a provisional committee at foundation meeting of the Bundaberg GC on the 14th June, 1897.³⁰



Kinellan at New Farm, Brisbane, ca. 1900. Following Turner's death in 1900, Kinellan's land was subdivided for suburban development, and the house was demolished in 1929. Image courtesy of State Library of Queensland.

The inaugural meeting of the Toowoomba GC was held at the Club Hotel in August 1896. Charles C. Corfe was the first captain and Dr E.A. Falkner was the Hon. Secretary/Treasurer. Among the 21 original members was Marmaduke Francis 'Frank' Ramsay of Etonvale, the Toowoomba GC history has a photo of golf being played by the Ramsay family on the property in 1893.³¹ The club's first course, 9 holes and measuring a little over one and a quarter miles long, was on Drayton Road about a mile out of town.³² It should be noted the club doesn't have club records before 1910.



Golf at Etonvale 1893. Home property of Ramsay Family.

The Brisbane Golf Club's foundation meeting was on the 4th November, 1896 at the AMP Society Chambers. Eleven members were present and the Brisbane GC has the original minutes of this meeting. Lord Lamington was to be asked to be President of the Club. The Venerable Archdeacon David and Mr A. McIntosh (the latter wasn't at the meeting) were elected vice-presidents, J.R. Gair was elected Hon. Secretary and S. Larard treasurer. The Rev. G.H. Fordsham chaired the meeting, others in attendance were Dr A.B. Carvosso, G.H. Irvine, H. Schacht, L.H. Turner, P. Matthews, W. Marks and Dr Wheeler. The Chairman and several others had previously inspected Chelmer and recommended that the clubs 'links' be formed at Chelmer which the meeting approved. The course was ready for the Club's first competition day on the 12th December, 1896.³³

The Bundaberg GC was formed on the 14th June, 1897 at the Grand Hotel. Messrs. F. Payne, F.V. Murphy and J.S. Meiklejohn were elected onto the provisional committee. 12 basic sets of clubs and 6 dozen balls were ordered from Wolley, Bergin and Co. for the members and the approval given to lay out links at Millibank.³⁴

In August 1897 at his farm and racing stable Buttonsville (named after his champion horse Buttons), in Clifton St, Booval near Ipswich, "Mr E.J. (Edward 'Ted' John L.) Easton and his jockey boys have started the game having secured the necessary material and marked out the required links. In their spare time the 'boss' and his employees engage in golf and any visitors are invited to take part".³⁵ Perhaps Hugh Kerr

Early Golf in Queensland (cont.)



Lord Lamington driving from the 1st tee on the Chelmer Links, 1901.
Image courtesy of State Library of Queensland.

was a visitor, as soon afterwards in September, Mr Hugh Kerr of the Royal Bank was making an effort to introduce golf to Ipswich.³⁶ A meeting on the 7th September formed the Ipswich GC, with E.J. Eaton and Hugh Kerr elected onto the club committee. The club adopted the Brisbane GC rules.³⁷ The club played at the "horse park".³⁸

June 1898 saw a Victoria Park GC formed by Brisbane Hospital doctors Jackson, Hirschfield, Bell and Halford along with Messrs. Brady, Payne and Eden.³⁹ The club began games in the park on the 13th August.⁴⁰ The links were officially opened by Lord Lamington on the 19th November.

In 1899 the Gladstone GC was formed and began playing on their 'links' at Rocky Glen in May. On the 7th July, Hugh Kerr founder and former Secretary and Captain of Ipswich Club and founding members of Brisbane Club John Read Gair and Henry Schacht were amongst the foundation members of the Charters Towers GC.⁴¹ Hugh Kerr, a bank manager for the Royal Bank had been transferred to Charters Towers.⁴² John Gair and Henry Schacht were solicitors who had relocated to Charters Towers from Brisbane.⁴³ John Gair was appointed Hon. Secretary the same role he had filled at Brisbane. The Charters Towers course was laid out at the northern end of King St,⁴⁴ the same location as the course today. The Rockhampton GC followed soon after in August playing on the racecourse reserve.⁴⁵ Mr Miller, of the Rockhampton Grammar School, a keen and experienced player from the UK had been attempting to form a club since 1897. He brought from home a full set of clubs and had identified Emu Park as an ideal course.⁴⁶

Golf clubs and balls were available by early 1896 for these early clubs supplied by Perry Bros. store, Brisbane.⁴⁷ Edgar Martin was the first visiting golf professional to travel to Queensland to instruct in 1898, James Hunter followed the

following year and in 1900, making clubs, instructing players and making improvements to courses.

Endnotes

- ¹ For example, Genesis of Sport in Queensland – from Dreamtime to Federation. Reet A. Howell and Maxwell L. Howell. University of Queensland Press, 1992, p166, see also The Fairway is Mine. Bruce S. Ritchter. The Brisbane Golf Club Inc. 1996, p2.
- ² For example, Genesis of Sport in Queensland, p166, see also The Long Game, December, 2010. Newsletter of the Golf Society of Australia, p4.
- ³ Brisbane Courier 28th May, 1932 p7.
- ⁴ Maryborough Chronicle, Wide Bay and Burnett Advertiser 16th March, 1934 p8.
- ⁵ Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, 'Ivory, James, Lord Ivory (1792–1866), A. H. Millar
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- ¹¹ The Dundee Courier (Angus, Scotland) 8th October, 1868, p4.
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- ¹⁴ Telegraph (Brisbane) 8th July, 1882, p5.
- ¹⁵ Warwick Examiner and Times 25th May, 1908, p5.
- ¹⁶ Brisbane Courier 17th February, 1909, p7.
- ¹⁷ Brisbane Courier 23rd January, 1913, p9.
- ¹⁸ Brisbane Courier 8th February, 1913, p5.
- ¹⁹ Warwick Daily News 14th August, 1922, p2.
- ²⁰ Warwick Daily News 26th August, 1922, p2.
- ²¹ Daily Mail (Brisbane) 18th December, 1922, p10.
- ²² Daily Mail (Brisbane) 14th July, 1923, p11.
- ²³ Daily Mail (Brisbane) 30th October, 1923, p5.

Early Golf in Queensland (cont.)

- ²⁴ For example, The Story of Golf in NSW, David J. Innes, News South Wales Golf Association Ltd. 1988.p9. See also John Oxley Library State Library of Queensland blog article Golf in Queensland by Brian Randall <http://blogs.slq.qld.gov.au/jol/2014/06/26/golf-in-queensland/>²⁵ Townsville Golf Club Centennial History 1893-1993, G.H. Roberts O.A.M.
- ²⁶ Gympie Times and Mary River Mining Gazette 28th March, 1895, p2.
- ²⁷ Gympie Times and Mary River Mining Gazette 2nd July 1895, p3.
- ²⁸ Sydney Mail and New South Wales Advertiser 23rd January, 1897, p196.
- ²⁹ The Fairway is Mine. Bruce S. Ritchter. The Brisbane Golf Club Inc. 1996, p VIII.
- ³⁰ Bundaberg Mail and Burnett Advertiser 16th June, 1897, p2.
- ³¹ A Living History, Toowoomba Golf Club Ltd, John Evers, 1896.
- ³² Queenslander 19th September, 1896, p544.
- ³³ The Fairway is Mine, Bruce S. Ritchter, The Brisbane Golf Club Inc. 1996.
- ³⁴ Bundaberg Mail and Burnett Advertiser 16th June 1897, p2.
- ³⁵ Queensland Times, Ipswich Herald and General Advertiser 26th August 1897, p7.
- ³⁶ Queensland Times, Ipswich Herald and General Advertiser 4th September, 1897, p4.
- ³⁷ Queensland Times, Ipswich Herald and General Advertiser 9th September, 1897, p4.
- ³⁸ Queensland Times, Ipswich Herald and General Advertiser 9th October, 1897, p4.
- ³⁹ Telegraph (Brisbane) 14th June, 1898, p5.
- ⁴⁰ Telegraph (Brisbane) 21st November, 1898, p3.
- ⁴¹ Northern Miner 8th July, 1899, p7.
- ⁴² Queenslander 19th November, 1898, p1002.
- ⁴³ The Fairway is Mine, Bruce S. Ritchter, The Brisbane Golf Club Inc. 1996, p26.
- ⁴⁴ Northern Miner 11th October, 1899, p3.
- ⁴⁵ Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton) 39th August, 1899, p5.
- ⁴⁶ The Capricornian 25th September, 1897, p19.
- ⁴⁷ Brisbane Courier 3rd February, 1896, p6.

Ferrier and Nicklaus at Manly**Tom Moore**

There's an old saying "DON'T COUNT YOUR CHICKENS BEFORE THEY HATCH." This proved unfortunately true for Sam Richardson, one of Australia's Champion Golfers. Sam was a solid fellow with a pure swing. Many experts said it was every bit as good as Sam Snead.

In 1936 the NSW Close Championship was played at Manly. In those days they played several events limited to players from that State. Sam played well for the first three rounds, and was 5 shots in front of the field.

For the last round all names came out of a hat. There was no automatic draw where the leaders hit off at the end of the field with the idea that the winner would not be decided until the last players had finished their round.

Sam's name came out early, and he toured the course in a solid 72. This should have been good enough to win and Sam began to celebrate. Imagine his surprise when he found that

he had been beaten into second place, 5 strokes behind the winner, Jim Ferrier, who was at that time an amateur.



Jim scored an astonishing record of 10 under par. Par for Manly was 4,4,3,4,5,4,5,3,5 - 37 out and 3,4,4,5,3,4,5,4,3 - 35 home. Jim's score was 3,4,3,3,4,4,4,3,5 - 33 out, and started home with two pars 3,4, and then reeled off 6 birdies in a row to complete the home run of 29. Sam was devastated. Jim's score is enshrined on a brass plate in the Clubhouse.

After winning the Australian Open in 1938 and 1939 as an amateur, Jim emigrated to America where he carved out a brilliant career as a professional on the U.S.A. Tour, winning the U.S. P.G.A. Title in 1947.

Thirty-five years later, the Dunlop International Tournament was played at Manly, and the great American champion Jack Nicklaus scored a 62 in the 2nd round on his way to winning.

The course was basically the same as it was in 1936, with the first nine of 37, and the back nine of 35, where the 10th hole had been lengthened to a par 4, and the 13th reduced from a par 5 to a par 4.

Jack's score was 4,3,2,4,5,4,5,3,3 - 29 out, and 3,4,5,4,2,3,4,4,4 - 33 home. Golfers still speak in awe of Jack's score of 3 at the 584 yard par 5 ninth where he used a driver, a 6 iron and a putter.

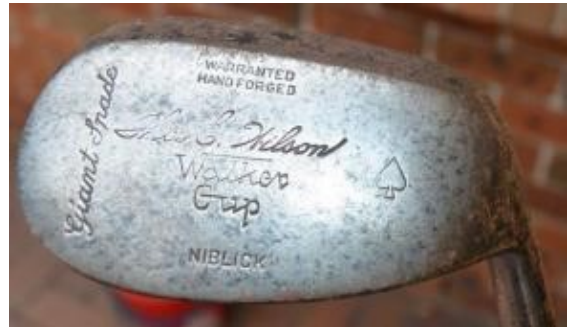
Buy, Swap & Sell

For Sale

FOR SALE—Spalding Kro-Flite Sweet Spot #29 niblick, \$45. Good condition, large head.



FOR SALE—Thos. E. Wilson Walker Cup Giant Spade Niblick, rainbow groove face, \$125. Good condition.



FOR SALE—Macgregor "Popular" series musselback mid-iron, \$60. Good condition 2-A model.



FOR SALE—Gibson H. Logan Genii Model mashie, dot face, \$45. Good condition.



FOR SALE—Macgregor "Popular" series mashie, \$55. Good condition.



FOR SALE—Gibson Special niblick, dot face, \$60. Good condition.



FOR SALE—Leyland & Birmingham Rubber Co. 2 iron—W^M Waggott, Aberlady, \$45. Good condition, stainless head.



FOR SALE—William Parker Defiance niblick, dot face, \$60. Good condition.



Buy, Swap & Sell (cont.)**For Sale**

FOR SALE—Australian made Mascot 4 iron, lined face \$20. Fair condition, some damage to chrome finish.



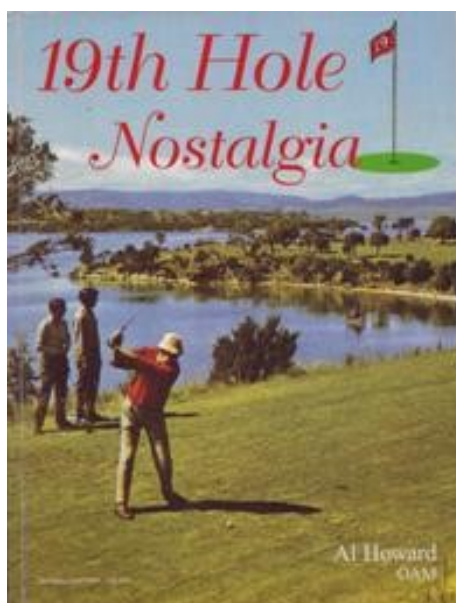
Contact Jim Glenday on 0419 021976 or jimglenday@bigpond.com

FOR SALE—Brand new copies of '19th Hole Nostalgia' by the late Al Howard OAM.

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The Daily Mail (Brisbane), Wednesday 3 November 1925, Sunday 1 May 1926 & Wednesday 17 August 1926

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Whether it be articles, news items, anecdotes, photographs, letters, requests for information, 'Buy, Swap & Sell'

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