August 2022



## **MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

I am always proud of the role our club plays in our community, never have I been prouder than when I heard the final amount raised through the Hospice Golf Day in May. Our community - many of them members of the MGC - raised over \$100 000 for Arohanui Hospice. I would like to thank everyone involved, especially the organising committee and the Manawatu Golf Club staff who made a massive contribution to the success of this event.

Thanks also to all the members who enjoyed our social "Night with the Relatives", the live music, the supper and the dancing were outstanding and it was great to see over 100 people enjoy the evening. Our next social evening is the Wine Match Dinner on August 13th - such is the popularity of this event - it sold out in 24 hours! We're looking forward to another great evening.

Speaking of fundraising initiatives, the Manawatu Golf Club supports Kath's (F&B Manager) great initiative to raise funds for Ukraine. In the second week of August a series of Auctions will be online including a fully catered dinner for 10 in the Auction winners home - these have proved very popular in the past. All food has been donated for this by our generous suppliers and all staff are giving their time free of charge. All funds raised will go directly toward the projects led by MCG Member Steve Gill. Steve is with his wife in Ukraine and is part of a group leading the humanitarian support for the people affected by the war. More information will be in next week's weekly newsletter and a flyer is available from the Cafe. Thanks to Kath and her team for this wonderful initiative.

All the best for your golf in August, reading Sav's update about Club Champs, August is one of our most exciting months - all the best to everyone with qualifying.

And finally a warm welcome to James (GM) Hayley (Events), Scott (Greenkeepers) and Kiri (Front of House Cafe), who have joined our awesome MGC team in the last month; I know they will enjoy working in this great club.

#### President's Trivia Challenge

This is a new initiative - to see if anyone actually reads my ramble - each month a Trivia question will be posed. The first person to either email me the answer or tell me in person will receive a drink of their choice care of the Presidential account.

"Which member of the Manawatu Golf Club staff lived for 4 years in St Andrews (Scotland) and regularly played the 'Old Course' and graduated with an Honours degree from St Andrews University?"

Answers by email to brent@mancold.co.nz or in person at the course.

Enjoy your club.

Brent

Brent Cawthray President



### **MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER**

### Welcome to Winter Golf!

July has certainly been a challenge with weather befitting the season. We had more than 270 mls of rain in July (our average is usually around 90mm) but the course was still very busy with over 2200 rounds played in the last month. This amount of play - and played on really great greens - is a credit to our Greenkeepers team, and the group of volunteers who provide vital support.

I had the pleasure of playing a couple of courses in Auckland in July (Gulf Harbour and Pakuranga). The back 9 at Gulf Harbour is pretty spectacular but the underfoot conditions were very wet which reminded me how lucky we are to have very good drainage at MGC - and significantly less rain than Auckland. At Pakuranga we used our reciprocal rights to play for free MGC have a close connection with a number of very good clubs in NZ, the reciprocal rights are a great deal which I hope our members make the most of. If you need any help booking and using your reciprocal rights please let me know. The two rounds were topped off with a wonderful homecoming for the Warriors at Mt Smart - the Warriors stretched their unbeaten streak at home to over 3 years (until last weekend!)

It was a pleasure to welcome Warren and Anne Collett back to the MGC, mid July, to farewell Rachel Huxtable. This was a wonderful surprise for Rachel and I couldn't think of a better person to acknowledge the contribution Rachel has made to the club over the last 5 years. Rachel had a great send off including a staff quiz, a whole staff Pickleball tournament at Massey and dinner together. On behalf of the Manawatu Golf Club community we pass on our sincere thanks and wish Rachel all the best with her next adventure

There is a lot happening in August and the reports of the President, Club Captains and Pro Shop highlight the amount of competition and activity occurring. The final stages of the McLennan, Club Champs Qualifying and the Wine Match Dinner are highlights to look forward to in August.



Over the weekend we hosted a lovely Volunteer appreciation event for members of our club who go above and beyond in terms of giving back their time and sharing their energy and expertise. Christine did a wonderful job coordinating the event and it was enjoyed by all. On August 21st/22nd we are reaching out to our members again to ask for help. We have two working bees planned to lime the paths around the course. We have planned to hold these on a Sunday afternoon (1-3pm) and a Monday morning (9-11am) to ensure as many people as possible can volunteer their time. If you have the time, expertise and energy to be able to help the Club with this important project please sign up on a form available in the MGC Office or contact me by email. We have to go through the registration process to ensure both the course and the volunteer are protected (under H&S) and most importantly to ensure we have enough muffins and coffees for the aftermatch appreciation. If you can help in any way - whether you are young/old or male/female thanks in advance. The biggest revelation for me in my first few weeks is how much time a large number of volunteers give our club, and how much we rely on them for the success of the course, the club and the community.

### **MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER**

It has been great to see the recovery from the significant drainage work around Hole 16. This will - hopefully - have a massive positive benefit for the hole, bunker and green. It is the first stage of the renovation with the next phase focusing on the bunker. I'll keep you posted about progress.

Other focuses over the next few weeks include:

- Final decisions on the Pole Shed (for Carts and Trundlers) including viability, tender review and coordinating the project managing team.
- A membership review sub committee is doing a lot of work around the membership options (and costs) offered by MGC. We have a great mix of talented and passionate people on this committee and I know all members are being represented well. A recommendation will be presented to the committee at the August meeting and I hope to be able to provide an update to the wider community in the September newsletter. The goal is to ensure all members have great opportunities to play and enjoy the course. Alan (Pro) has provided some fascinating stats about the changing use of the course over the last 5 years, one that stood out for me was that more than double the amount of rounds are played on a Sunday (2017 v 2022). Facilitating these changing demands (tee times etc) is part of the membership committee's mandate and the positive member experience is front and centre of all discussions.
- Planning for the Brian Green Super Six event (Feb 2023) is well underway. The most significant progress is the confirmation of the tremendous support of Brian Green Property Services as the naming sponsor - thank you Brian.

Thanks for the warm welcome, enjoy the course and cafe in August and if there is anything I can do to improve your member experience, please let me know <u>gm@manawatugolfclub.com</u>

James Lovegrove General Manager



# MESSAGE FROM EVENTS

Thank you to everyone at MGC for being so welcoming and friendly as I settle into my new role as Marketing and Functions Manager. There has been a lot of information to digest and new systems and processes to learn, however, I'm excited to be here and be part of such a vibrant and busy club.

Monday night saw me join some of the staff at the Manawatu Hospitality awards. It was great to be nominated as one of the top cafes in the Manawatu, and it was a good chance to look around and applaud those in the region who have achieved great success through these COVID times. It was also a good chance for me to spend some time getting to know staff in a social setting. We had a lot of fun in the photobooth!

I'm looking forward to meeting more MGC members and becoming more familiar with the club in the weeks ahead. Thanks for having me <sup>(2)</sup>





Hayley Underwood Events and Function Manager

## **MESSAGE FROM THE CLUB CAPTAIN**

July again meant that we have had a broken schedule with several days being disrupted through the normal winter weather. It never ceases to amaze me the determination of players keen to get a round of golf in even in the awful rain and wind. Thanks to the greenkeepers who brave the course at 6am many mornings to have the course ready to go by the time the golfers turn up. August is a busy month with both Men & Women Club Champs being upon us again.

#### July Men's Craig's Investment Partners Tankard

Congratulations to Barry Henderson who was the July's Craig's Investment Partners Tankard winner with 41 stableford points. Bert Chang played well for 40 points and just missed out.



#### Men's Interclub v PN

In a tight contest Palmerston North Golf Club just edged out Manawatu Golf Club at the Manawatu course in the annual Men's interclub event. Average stableford was the format, with PN winning 29 to 28.

Well done to all players who braved the winter conditions!



#### Men's Club Championships 2022

Saturday 13th & 20th August with Saturday 27th August reserve day

Being the pinnacle of the Club season, this is a reminder to all 7day men that the Champs are coming up in August. The Club encourages all to participate. Please enter the event on our website the same way as the monthly tankard.

For the purposes of Club Champs qualifying only, indexes will be frozen as of 6pm Wednesday prior to the first qualifying rounds. Both the morning & afternoon qualifier fields will be by club draw.

In the event of the following affecting one of these days, a) frost or b) inclement weather that prevents play, then a reserve day will be used for qualifying for Club Championships. Qualifying on the Reserve Day is only open to those affected by frost or inclement weather. Qualifying is based on the best gross score from the maximum of 2 qualifying rounds. (Feb 2022)

After being made aware that the Senior/Intermediate cut-off has been has been incorrect for over 10 years, this has been adjusted to the historically correct cut-off of course handicap 9-10 respectively.

Tees for the Club Champs

#### Black Tees

 Seniors: Black tee handicap range +7 to 9 (Index up to 10.0)

#### **Blue Tees**

- Intermediate: Blue tee handicap range 10 to 15 (Index 10.1 to 15.8)
- Juniors: Blue tee handicap range 16 to 20 (Index range 15.9 to 20.4)
- C grade: Blue tee handicap range 21 to 40 (Index range 20.5 to 38.9)...

# **MESSAGE FROM THE CLUB CAPTAIN**

- 9 Hole men: Blue tees two divisions
- Qualifying rounds are as stipulated in the annual programme booklet. Note that the Handicap index bands are subject to change following any Course re-rating or changes in the World Handicap System.

### Manawatu Men's Handicap Pennants

**Sunday 3rd July** The Manawatu Handicap Pennants team played Levin at Foxton.

Unfortunately for us, the day came out showing a 7 to 2 win for Levin.

Although we lost, the result didn't reflect the hard work put in by our guys.

Brian Spencer again excelled with a good 5/4 win in his singles match and also paired with young Jack Clarke to win their 4 ball match 4/2.

At least 4 other matches went down to the wire and with an ounce of luck Manawatu could have shown an overall win on the day.

Alas not to be on this occasion.

As has become the norm this year, wearing the new Manawatu uniform, our team was the best dressed on the course.

### Sunday 17th July

Not the best of days for the Men's Handicap Pennants team today at a very wet under foot Levin Golf Club, going down to Feilding 3-6. Wins were by Bert Chang & Richard Shaw in their 4-ball 2 and 1, Brian Spencer 2 and 1 and Richard Shaw 5 and 4 in singles matches. We were STILL the best-looking team out there though!

### Handy Hints

#### Entry of score cards

Refer to programme book for procedure. The Golf Club's policy is that the marker enters the players score into the Dot Golf touchscreen. Cards must be entered immediately after the round is completed. In Gross & Net Stroke competitions the Pickup option must be selected on holes where the ball has been pickup (not putted out). If after entering a card this issue is realised, please contact the Pro Shop in the first instance to arrange for proper entry of card score.

#### Devil's Own

When the course hosts the Devil's Own Golf Tournament, it's traditional that the members visit a local course on a bus trip. This year we are going to Rangatira Golf Course near Hunterville, please contact your Club Captain if you would like to join the trip. Cost \$50, further details to come.

Thanks, and Good Golfing!

Alan Savell Club Captain

### HOLES IN ONE

Congratulations to the following golfers who got a hole in one in June!



Josh Chettleburgh Hole 8, 5 June, 2022

lan Anderson Hole 4, 29 June, 2022



## WOMEN'S GOLF – MESSAGE FROM THE CLUB CAPTAIN

Well July didn't fit quite with the prescription of dry July but thankfully some golf was played. Our 18 hole Interclub with Palmerston North was played at Palmerston North albeit in pretty challenging conditions. Our Manawatu women did amazingly well with an average of 25 stablefords. You may well laugh but, hey, Palmerston North came home with 22.2! It certainly helped that the top three scores were Manawatu so big thanks to the women that soldiered on. You never know what the end of the day will bring, so we came back with the Joan Prout Salver!!



**Deb Archer & Chris Moult** 

Thanks everyone for keeping on top of your matches, I know it hasn't always been easy but keep up the good work.

Thankfully the final qualifying round for 18 hole Club Champs was able to be played and the draw for this will be posted this week both in the locker room and on the website. Once this is posted please make contact with your opponent stariaght away so you can get those matches played in good time. If you now find you cannot play in this please let me know asap.

As mentioned in the previous newletter 9 hole Club Champs qualifying start the first week of August so all the best to everyone. Colleen and Natasha I know will have everything sorted for you. Before Rachel left us we were lucky enough to get together and present her with two framed pictures of her favourite Karearea. We have been really fortunate to have Rachel's help with numerous tasks that were outside the curriculum and we wish her well in what we are calling her 'life of leisure'.



Colleen Fraser, Rachel Huxtable & Deb Archer

We are now very fortunate to have Hayley as part of the office team and look forward to working with her.

As you know we had our Mid Winter Dinner last Friday and although our numbers were down a little due to illness those that were able to join in had a lovely night. Not only is the food great but it was also a great opportunity to meet fellow golfers. Hopefully those that were stuck at home with 'the Covid' or flu are well on their way to recovering. Next event will be our Spring Fling so keep an eye out for that.

Just a reminder that with the wet weather we need to do our bit to keep the course in the amazing condition that it is. Replace divots and repair pitch marks one of the mantra's of golf. I know some of us don't make big dents in the green but even the slight marks can do damage so check it out and repair. Feel free to repair someone elses as well. There is a right way and a wrong way to repair so google this and get informed. The pitch repairer is an important part of a golfer's equipment.

All the best for your August golf and apparently research has found that playing golf helps us stay young and healthy so go for it!

Deb Archer Women's Club Captain



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MANAWATU GOLF CLUB

# MESSAGE FROM THE GOLF SHOP

I hope you are all well and managing to get some golf in around the bad weather and course closures! Also, a big welcome to Hayley and James - we hope you both really enjoy it here.

#### News from the shop:

Guy recently celebrated his 30th birthday and we celebrated in style. (Photo is Guy celebrating with his favourite treat "Crocodiles")

As a lot of you may know, golf lessons have been in big demand and we have had long waits on lesson times. At this stage, there are still long waits but what we suggest doing is to book in a lesson and we can put you on a waiting list. We are getting a few cancellations at the moment due to covid and winter bugs, which means some people on the waiting list are getting lessons sooner than what they booked for.

#### What is new in the shop:

Winter is showing its nasty side lately and we have the gear to get you through it. We have had a stockup of waterproof golf bags and winter clothing from rain jackets through to nice warm beanies!!

Just remember, if you have any questions regarding your game, please don't hesitate to ask us. We are here to help!

**Your Pro Shop Team** Alan, André, Tim, Brydie & Guy. For any updates on the course regarding course open or closed, Frost delay and if carts are permitted or not. Please look on the home page, course status. Please do not look under news in the members section for course updates.

<u>New Titleist TSR Woods:</u> We have been getting a lot of questions in the shop regarding when the new Titleist Driver and Fairway Woods will be arriving. I have had word that our Fitting kit/Demos will be arriving sometime in October!!!





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## **NEW MEMBERS**

# **10 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS**



The Committee would like to confirm the acceptance to the Club of the following new members who applied in June 2022

**7 Day member** Guy Carter, John Ewens

Tertiary Jonathan Steward

5 Day Member Simon Lees, David Miles

**9 Hole Member** Michelle Argyle

**Restricted Junior** David Gray, Joshua Waltz

Social

Rei Asahino, John Choi, Douglas Duncan, Rina Jung, Leo Li

During the month of June, 17 members resigned bringing our total membership number to 1114 members.

We wish our resigned members all the best and welcome our new members, we are sure you will enjoy your time at the club. The committee would like to congratulation T (front of house) and Tim Harris (kitchen) on their 10 year service awards. Thanks for your service to MGC – we certainly appreciate and value your contributions over the past 10 years.





# SATURDAY LADIES

We have been very fortunate with the weather, and so matches continue to be played at a good rate, clearing the way for the club champ matches.

#### Helen Wilkinson

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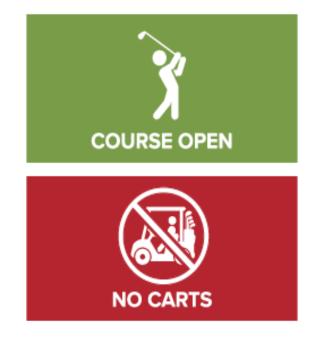
## **MESSAGE FROM THE GREEN KEEPERS**

WOW! July has been one wet month! We had 285mm of rain, the usual rainfall is around 90mm for July. In between all the weather I hope you all had an opportunity to get out and play some golf. The golf course is holding up well in the conditions, we are trying to keep you all playing as much as we can 3.

In the last month the greenkeepers have been working on our swimming skills as I am sure others have been also. We have had air punched in all the greens to a depth of 250mm, this allows water to infiltrate & give air to the roots.

In the coming month, we will be working on paths & bunkers, with this being the main priority. If we get an opportunity with the weather we will be looking to core the surrounds & tees.

Please continue to repair pitch-marks & replace your divots. Watch where you are driving you carts & walking as the course is still wet in places. One thing I do want to point out is the website. We update the course status which is on the main page of Manawatu Golf Club, to help all members and visitors from coming down to the club and finding out that we are closed or have a frost delay. Below is what they look like on the website. Hope you all have a great golfing month (3). Hopefully we have more Sunshine than rain.



On the 1st of August Scott Hamilton started at Manawatu Golf Club, Scott recently worked for the Hamilton City Council. Scott is fully qualified in Turf Management, we welcome Scott here with open arms. Please wave and say hi when you see him around (3).



Kiel Stechman Course Superintendent

### **MIXED NINE HOLE NEWS**

Not such a good golfing month due to rain, rain and more rain but our coffee group has retained its standard by keeping our cafe busy. All Open Days and Round Robins have been cancelled as some courses are a real mess.

The Gillespie Cup tournament has a winner : Elizabeth Burgess, Runner up: Colleen Fraser. The Lavender and Odd Couples tournaments are awaiting the final matches to be played.

Our ladies had a lovely evening with our 18 hole ladies. Great to have a get together and some to meet people they haven't met before and as usual the meal was superb!! On Sunday we had Volunteers appreciation game and lunch James came up with a good idea to mix everyone up and it was very enjoyable and once again lunch was delicious.

On Thursday we have about 16 players heading to Hawkes Bay for a "Roadie" first stop Waipukurau a new adventure for most people then playing at Napier course on Friday do hope weather is kind to us. Next week is 1st qualifying round for Club Champs. Play well everyone!

We would like to wish Maureen Macdonald a speedy recovery after her mishap (broken leg) and Chrissy Rose after her hip replacement thinking of you both.

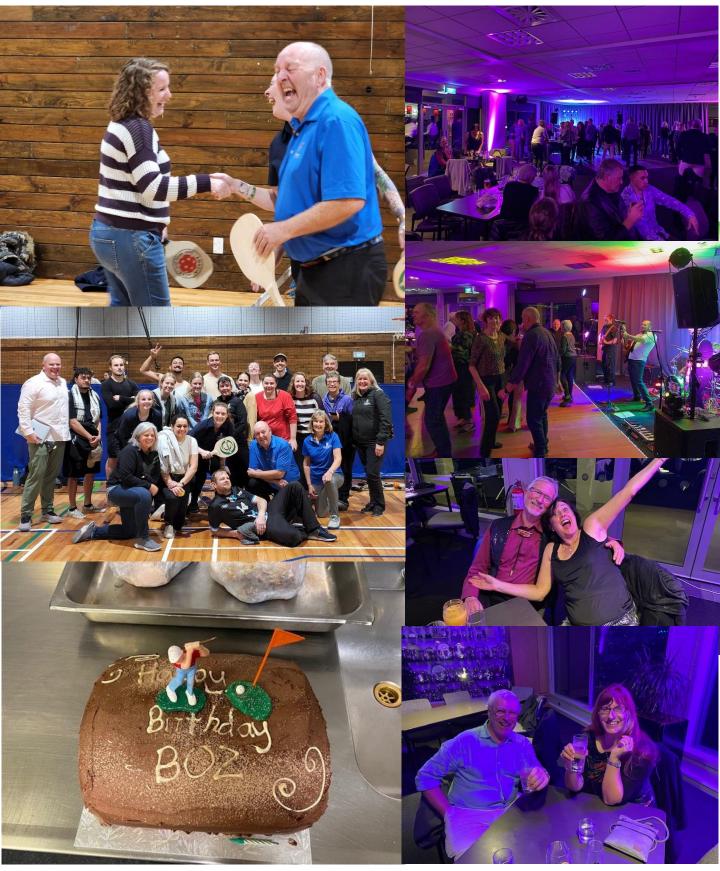
Welcome to James and Hayley I'm sure you will find us a happy group. Good golfing everyone!

Colleen Fraser/Natasha Meyer 9 Hole Convenor

# JULY PHOTOS

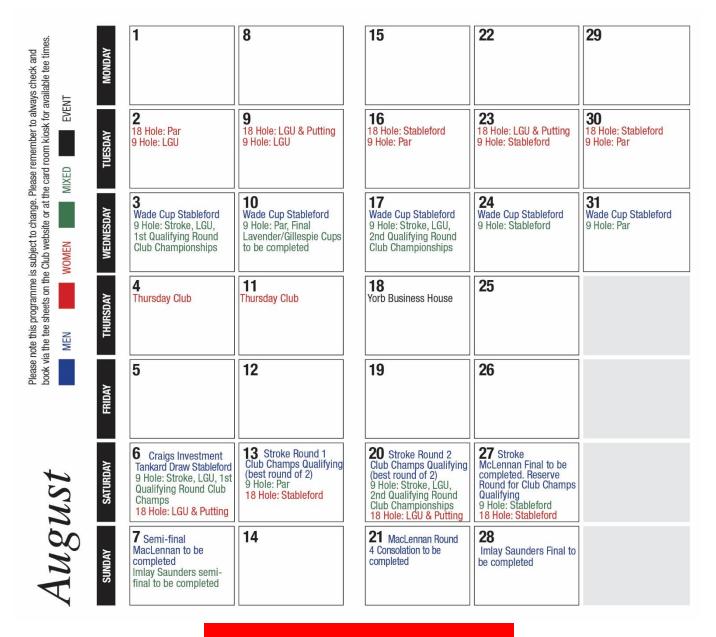
### **Farewell Rachel**

### A Night with The Relatives



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## WHATS ON IN AUGUST



### Wine Match Dinner SOLD OUT!



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## **SPONSOR OF THE MONTH**



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