

**“THE BUZZ”**  
*By Heather Henn & Brenda Briese*

Welcome to the first edition of *“The Buzz”*. Brenda and I have been commissioned by the Management Committee for an undefined interim period, to keep you up to date on the happenings at the Golf Club while the editor of “Around The Traps” is busy overseeing the introduction of a new and dynamic system within the Clubhouse, incorporating a new cash register system that, in the end, will do everything but pour the drinks for you. All very exciting!

For those members who may not be aware of the 2017 Management Committee they are:-

President	Glen Watkins (everyone knows him as a long-standing Captain and now Life Member)
Vice President	Neale Head (as last year and former Publicity Officer)
Treasurer	Charlie Bevan (as last year and owner of an exceptional B&B up on the range)
Captain	Andrew Wills (as last year, a man with new vision for the running of competitions this year)
Greens Director	Col Penney (as previous years and still doing a great job, but don't let him loose with a chainsaw)
House Director	Cameron Reid (the longest serving House Director in the history of the Club)
Promotions & Publicity Officer	Andy Bullen (as previous years, a quiet man not often seen but whom I'm told has some great ideas for this year)

The new rogue's gallery, no doubt, will soon appear on our Website so you will be able to identify them should you have any questions relevant to their various portfolios.

## **President's Message .....**

Glen welcomes you to the first newsletter for 2017 where he hopes to keep the members informed, on a regular basis, of what is happening now and in the future. At the moment it is business as usual at the club, while he catches up on the plans and aspirations of the past year.

And what he has discovered so far has him enthusiastically looking forward to the continued progress and success this club has enjoyed over many years. A new strategic plan has been put in place where structured improvement and forward planning will take us step by step into the next decade.

Club renovations, golf course upgrades and possible lease purchases are all included in the projects to be carefully considered and actioned.

In the meantime he and his fellow Committee Members hope that all members enjoy their golf and urge you to stay well hydrated in these extreme conditions.

## **Golf Course Happenings.....**

Dry dry dry..... that unfortunately is the state of the course (and all our own backyards) at the moment. No rain has caused substantial issues on the course and as we were putting this edition together, Col advised us that compulsory tee up, through the green, has been implemented to try and save what little grass we have left.

The coring and renovations of the greens will not take place either if sufficient rain is not received by the 20<sup>th</sup> of this month. Scarifying will be done and solid tining but no sand spread, as this too needs watering in properly. Water a commodity in short supply at the moment. Therefore fellow golfers the greens will not be to the standard that you are all used to, but what can you do. Please be patient and understanding.

More bad news in that a couple of well loved (?) trees will have to be removed because of a danger to us. The one on the right hand side of the 8<sup>th</sup> fairway near the 100m marker is coming down down down due to dead wood at the head. (Col's expressions, not ours.) The other tree going is on the left hand side on the 9<sup>th</sup> beside the first bunker. The root system is damaging the bunker itself. Apparently filling in the bunker was not an option!!!! Oh well. Speaking of bunkers, what do you think about the change to the bunker at the front of 5?

Good news though in that a new tee on the 18<sup>th</sup> for use by the Ladies and Social players, is under construction and will be completed later in the year. The large pile of dirt between the 10<sup>th</sup> tee and the 18<sup>th</sup> green will be converted into a new chipping green, again later in the year. And..... the 15<sup>th</sup> fairway is going to be realigned closer to the dam (just for a bit more of a challenge) with more trees to be planted down the right hand side. Bet you just can't wait. The cart paths, which are in their final stages, will also be completed in the months to come.

The club is the proud owner of a new Tee and Surrounds mower which has already made a marked difference to the finishing touches. Also much kudos goes to the happy team of Volunteers, which numbers a regular 7 members and sometimes up to 9, who continue to do a fantastic job on the gardens, picking up sticks, top dressing tees, fixing water leaks and much more. Their contributions make a huge difference in the overall presentation of the golf course and is a classic example of what can be achieved when driven by pride in your club.

And lastly, Col asks that you please make welcome our new Maintenance and Security Officer, Colin Baker, who recently took up residence in the Caretaker's house. We hope he has a long and happy association with us.

### **Match News .....**

Andrew tells us that he is also looking forward to the year ahead and wrangling the computerised scoring system so it works well for all events being one of his major objectives.

He will have more news as the year progresses, but for now he advises that his pennant team is a strong one this year after not fielding a team at all last year. The players are all rearing to go with the new format having everyone playing in handicap order with the top 5 players off scratch and the next 6 off handicap. Beerwah annihilated Woodford last Sunday 10 ½ to ½. What a great effort boys.

There has been an alteration within the handicapping system. The calculation of the "Daily Scratch Rating" will never be lower than one under par.

If you should find yourself at a loose end on the last Sunday of each month, Andrew has now scheduled a "2 Ball Ambrose". These are fun games and a nice break from the fierce competition of other days, so come along and enjoy.

**What's happening in the House .....**

Cameron tells us that it was a busy time in the house over Christmas and lots of interesting plans are scheduled for the next 6 months.

The upgrade of the clubhouse is almost complete with external painting and airconditioning finished. The only renovation to be completed is the replacement of the remaining old ceiling tiles. Many thanks to the Tuesday volunteers for doing this job for us.

The new cash registers have been installed and this will significantly improve stock control and reporting and allow a larger number of line items, so a greater variety of beverages can be accommodated. (How good is that!)

The other exciting aspect of the new registers is the software that drives them. Currently talks are underway with the provider Micro Power about member accounts. This will be fantastic, it will allow members to deposit prize and ball vouchers, or even cash, straight into their own account for use in the bar or pro shop and can even be used to offset membership fees when they become due. (I doubt Brenda and I will have anything left to do that.) All of this will be available via a swipe card with magnetic strip and hopefully all will be up and running within 6 months.

Very soon you will see canned beer available for consumption on the golf course. The advantage of cans is no bottle tops to damage our mowers and less rubbish in the bins. We reckon they will make for more efficient stacking in your golf bags and eskies too. Another plus.

Cameron has been very busy in other aspects of the club's interests too, now this is VERY exciting.....

Cam encourages all members to Google "Beerwah East" and have a look at this proposed development. This offers significant growth opportunities to Beerwah Golf Club with approximately 5000 new homes to be built. He has already met with Hon. Mark McArdle, our local member, who provided us with a letter of support and introduction to Hon. Dr Anthony Lynam, The Minister for Natural Resources to discuss the possibility of purchasing the land we currently lease. (Wow, Cam has certainly been mixing it with the big boys).

The Club is also looking at purchasing or taking a lease over an additional parcel of land adjacent to the course. This obviously is a long term project and the members will be kept informed and involved in any decisions made.

So, very exciting times ahead for our progressive Club.

As always Cam invites all members not to hesitate to contact him if you have any questions or suggestions on how the house can provide a better service to you.

### **What's happening with our coffers .....**

On speaking with Treasurer Charlie he was just oozing with enthusiasm about all that is planned for the Club this year. He provided us with a lengthy report on every aspect of the Club's undertakings which is covered here in previous pages so basically what we can tell you is that the Club's finances are in a very healthy state. The total cost of the new Green Surrounds mower including interest is approximately \$64,000. This mower should service our requirements for a good 6 – 10 years.

Obviously he has researched our ability to afford the new Point of Sale system and work to be performed on the Golf Course and will provide us all with a more detailed summary of expenses in future newsletters.

He did reveal that our bank account is comfortable and measures, in the form of business loans, have been put in place should the need ever arise to draw them down. We gained the impression that our funds are in capable hands.

He is so excited at the success of his Senior Pennant team too, so we wish them well for the remainder of their season.

### **Coming events and happenings.....**

Having spoken with Andy about his Publicity and Promotion plans for this year, he tells us that there has been a major “Think Tank” with firm plans to be formulated at their next meeting later in the month. So sadly we can't divulge anything definite to you.

However he did say that they were looking at having a function of some kind on a monthly basis and get the Clubhouse jumping again. (Can't wait for that, it's been too long.) Some possibilities have been mooted but nothing can be given away at this stage, so you'd better keep watching this space for updates.

Andy also mentioned that funds raised from raffle proceeds will now be earmarked for specific projects and not just lost in consolidated revenue. Now members can be encouraged to buy the tickets, enjoy the prizes and see their contributions being used in ways that will benefit them. (Great idea!) So members why not put on your thinking caps and offer some suggestions as to where you would like to see these funds directed.

### **From the Girlies.....**

I guess we should start with the huge success of the Ladies Break-up Party in early December 2016. The day comprised of a 9 hole team competition followed by the Annual Awards Ceremony and presentation of daily trophies. Much credit goes to the outgoing Committee for their amazing efforts in organizing the day and the trophies provided, the clubhouse looked very festive and we were all well fed and watered.

Not to give anything further away but also a big thank you to the lady members who went to great lengths outfitting themselves under the "S" theme. You all looked incredible. I can give no further information away..... *Secret Womens' Business.*

The 2017 season is now underway with some brave ladies taking on the heat. We may have had diminished fields but the quality of play has not been affected with some great scores being registered.

This year's Committee has made some small changes with tee markers for Monthly Medals currently being trialed for the next 3 months. "C" Graders to tee off the Red markers and "A" and "B" Graders off the Yellow markers. The first day was probably a bit confusing for some but I'm sure we will all soon get used to it. The trick is to help each other. Also Birdie holes will now be on Par 3's and 4's only thereby excluding Par 5's as it was considered a bit of an unfair challenge for all.

We have scheduled a number of Men's Invitation Days again this year and we look forward to welcoming them to join us. Remember girls to be on your best behaviour on those days, we don't want the guys to know what really goes on, do we?

Our Pennant Season will get underway next month, again we are fielding 3 teams and we wish them all the very best of luck. It's wonderful that we have so many players who are prepared to travel and compete as representatives of the Beerwah Golf Club so I hope everyone gives the girls their support.

Please feel free to chat to any of your Committee members should you have any concerns, suggestions or just want to grumble. We have all passed the “take you under my wing” course, compliments of President Henn.

### **Seniors News .....**

President Joan reports that they are enjoying good fields despite the humid weather; they even hosted 20 players from Blackbutt this week who were most impressed with our golf course. (Who wouldn't be!).

She even tells that us that some players are excelling at the moment, the other day a score of 62 nett was registered. (We could do that too, if we only played 15 holes.)

The senior's pennant season is underway with two games played. After beating Pacific Harbour last week, they were top of the table with 12 points but unfortunately couldn't maintain that lead after playing Caboolture at Woodford last week. Not to worry guys you have time to work your way back up the table. Just do what Geoff Carson did at Bribie Island and score a hole in one. Sure way to win a hole.

Captain Trevor is not his A1 self right now and Joan says “Hurry up and get well Trevor, we miss having you around.”

### **Managing Secretary says.....**

Wendy and her staff have been in training mode of recent times so therefore hasn't got a lot to share with you this time.

However she extends her sincere thanks on behalf of Management and Membership to Di Flint for her donation of a well situated bench seat as a memorial to her husband Jim who served as Club President several years ago. Thank you Di.

We now have a a new Instagram account. Interesting photos are uploaded and also appear automatically on the club's Facebook page. The recent photo of member Ian Peut

chipping year the African tulip tree to the left of the 4<sup>th</sup> green, has already attracted 151 views. The Instagram page is currently being followed by Ian Baker Finch, Golf Queensland, Golf Australia and Inside Golf, amongst others, so please check it out.

Also Wendy is sorry to announce that Hope Hannah will be leaving the bar staff shortly to move to other parts where her husband has been transferred. Hope will be popping back from time to time to visit and the transfer is not permanent so perhaps at some stage she may return. We wish her well in her new endeavours.

### **News from the Pro Shop.....**

As always John is keen for all members to try products that can improve their games and he tells us that Titleist 917 Drivers are available for demonstration. All loft and shaft options are in store, so if you are losing distance, come and try one, they really are long!!!

Also Vokey Wedges are in store for demonstration with all loft and bounces being available. *By the way, he asks that the member who borrowed the 50 degree, please return it!!*

Don't forget that John and Robbie are eager to help you with all your golfing needs with an extensive range of clothing, shoes, accessories, balls, tees, gloves..... you name it, our Pro Shop has it.

You know being the central location that it is, John tells us that many visitors from other Clubs and social players are very complimentary about the great presentation of our golf course. So he thanks Steve and his fabulous staff, the Tuesday crew "Bonhomme's Boys" and Mavis and Marie for a job well done.

Whilst on the subject of Course Superintendent Steve, congratulations to him and his wife Tamika, on expecting their first child. Exciting times and on behalf of all at Beerwah, we wish Steve and Tamika all the very best.

News has also reached John on the progress of the Pennant Teams and he congratulates them for their achievements to date and wishes them continued success. (And so say all of us).

***THE END***