



THE VETERANS' VOICE – JUNE 2009

We often hear from our members who have travelled to some distant places and let us know their experiences good and bad. The latest is from one of our well-known members, who wish to remain anonymous, on a recent trip to Darwin for the pelican feeders' convention.

On the first day of the convention our member lined up at a bus stop with his pension card in hand to claim his concession fare. On boarding the bus he flashed his card and requested half fare pensioner rate. When the driver told him he could not pay half fare, our friend, who never takes a backward step, demanded to know why. When told that pensioners ride free in Darwin, a red faced passenger headed for the back seat and was last to alight at its destination. So if you are ever in Darwin, take your concession card and travel by bus. By the way, how was the rest of the trip, Fred?

I don't know why all the media has focused on "utegate" and Michael Jackson. Such news should be of little interest to the golfing fraternity, who should be out enjoying our beautiful, balmy weather. Actually a few years back when a lot of days were lost through course closure or no-cart-days, the wife of a prominent member, who happens to share his name with a famous jockey, came up with a great idea. She suggested we put a roof over the course so she wouldn't have to put up with him moping around the house.

That's enough of the fill-in news. Now back to the nitty gritty action on the golf course. Despite Mother Nature's spoiling efforts we managed three fixtures in June. The first of these on the 5th saw a small field of 77 take part – all walkers because carts were ruled out for the day.

This did not stop some members returning good scores. In Division 1, John Woods had 39 points to take the winner's voucher. Runner up was the "apricot juice man", Mick Magner, with 38 points. Division 2 saw Mal Ware the winner on 40 points with Robert Lindsay runner up on 39 points. NTPs went to Brian Backhouse, Terry Watson, Peter Meakin, Stan Crook and Alf Bishop. Run down went to 34.

With an improvement weather-wise on the 19th there were 122 starters. Division 1 saw "Mr Reliable, Tom Jamieson, put it all together to record 42 points and take the winner's spoils. Runner up was another consistent good scorer, Stan Crook, with 40 points. Club Treasurer, David Valentine, filled third spot with 39 points. Division 2 saw another money man, the Vets' Treasurer, John Fengler, take first spot with 40 points. Runner up was Geoff Browning with 39 points and third was Geoff Smith on 37. Pin shots were won by David Morphett, Rod Taylor, R Salter, Mick Magner and Noel Green. You needed 34 points or better to get a ball.

Then on the 26th we had visitors from Cooroy and Nambour for our host day. Also in attendance was the president of the Gold Coast Vets, David Harding. (I hope he was impressed by what he saw!) With a field of 143 it took one of the visitors, Charlie Cross from Nambour, to show us how it's done. Charlie, who happens to be a personal friend of mine, finished 3 over par in recording his 41 points.



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Of course he took first place in Division 1. Runner up was John Mallon with 40 points. Captain, John Lynch, also had 40 points as did Ray Densley and they filled 3rd and 4th spots.

Division 2 saw Michael Smith come out on top with 40 points. Graham Jones was runner up on 39. Derek Hewitt was 3rd with 38 and club president, Jim Burns, had 37 points to finish 4th. NTPs went to George Dawson, Jack "Mr Music" Taylor, Brian Simmons, Ivan Munchenberg and John Dickinson. Run down to 30.

Unfortunately I have not been around for a couple of weeks so don't have any news on our "out of action" group. Let's hope they're back playing or getting close to a return to the course.

Remember to "Play golf while you can."

Brian McNamara