



When considering the future direction of our fine club, as committee is now doing, there is much to be gained in being mindful of the club's history. Plans for the years ahead can be influenced by decisions made in the past.

The Brighton Golf Club was officially opened in 1953 following a chequered history of location and relocation and foundation members resigning and starting a new club. Much has changed since then as we all know and the club as it now stands has been shaped and moulded by events and personalities and decisions both popular and unpopular.

New members of our club in particular will benefit from the following story along with those like myself that have only snippets relayed to them from long standing members.

Our sincere thanks go to Kevon MacPherson a past Club Captain, President, Committee person who has taken the time and effort to put pen to paper.

- May 2009 Issue
- Did You Know?
  - VGL Pennant Fixture
  - Handicap Pennant Wrap
  - New Members
  - Hire of Clubrooms
  - Men's comp results
  - Ladies
  - Ladies Comp results

## Did You Know?

### The beginnings of the Brighton Golf Club Inc

As told to and recalled by Kevon J McPherson (BGC Life Member)

A Scotsman who owned the land built the course itself in the late 1800's. He built an eighteen hole course, the first nine holes was as we know the present back nine. The second nine was built on the corner of Bluff Rd and South Rd. His homestead was at the back of the present eighth green with access from which is now known as Creswick St.

As it became more difficult to cross South Rd nine holes were built on the East side of Glencairn Ave near Dendy Park, then later on the now front nine was built.

When the owner passed away he left all his land to the council which included Dendy Park. It was left to the council on the proviso the golf course would be kept and maintained by the council. The club that was formed at the course was known as the Brighton Golf Club, they were registered with the Victorian Golf Association along with other golf clubs such as Royal Melbourne and Metropolitan.

I have been told this was as early as 1902. The Royal Melbourne Golf Club was then a 10 minute walk from the Caulfield Station and later shifted to its present site. I do not know the reason why but the Brighton Golf Club decided it wanted its own course. They purchased land south of Springvale and is now known as the Southern Golf Club. During the time it took them to build their course and for a time after they retained the name of Brighton.

Those members and other members who did not wish to go to Southern then formed a new club at Brighton.

Because Southern wanted to keep their own name the new club decided to call themselves the Dendy Golf Club. Committees were formed and after a time they decided to buy land that was available at Glencairn Ave.

To buy this land the members were asked to take out a twenty pound (40 dollars) debenture: Most members took at least 1 debenture and the land at 97-99 Glencairn Ave was purchased. Using the land as collateral they built the clubhouse. On the committee were such men as Tom Stewart and William (Bill) Lydster. Bill was a master builder. Volunteers and working bees did all building. It was decided, so as to fit in with other buildings in the area, it would be built as a weatherboard. By this time Southern had relinquished the name of Brighton so our committee then applied for and received the name Brighton Golf Club. The year was 1952. I guess this application was made to the Victorian Golf League.

The early days of the 1970's the club decided to apply for a liquor license. Previous to that the club had two refrigerators in which you could leave your beer; each bottle would have to have the owner's name on it. This system was used because you were able to consume alcohol but you were not allowed to sell it at the club.

Before applying for the license we had to update the clubhouse to certain specifications. The inside walls were of a caneite material; this was covered up with a ply lining board. This was done by K McPherson donating his time and only charging for material.

While we had a bar of sorts it had to be updated and a cool room had to be added. We had a member called Ron Young who worked for Carlton & United Breweries; he knew of the standards required and also was able to acquire the fittings at cost price.

We made application to the Liquor Licensing Commission through solicitors and our secretary Mr Ted Turner. Ted was a detective with the Victorian Railways and had knowledge of court proceedings. He was also to be our licensee. The first application was refused because one of our neighbours, a Mr Lou Topanno who had taken up a partition of neighbours. After a further 12 months we received a restricted license, which allowed us to trade on Wednesdays and Saturdays and 5 special days a year - later it was changed to what we have today.

During the time we were going for the license I was club captain. I would rise on Saturday morning at 6.00am, those days you had to go to the course and put a numbered ball in a race. (more about this later). I would play my round of golf and then have to wait until all the cards were returned then with the handicapper work out the winners. I would then have to travel to the Hampton RSL and the McKinnon Hotel to let the members know the results. This was done because we did not have the results in the paper those days. Later on I was able to put the results on a slip of paper and drop it at the Bentleigh Station. The results were then taken by train to Flinders St Station and the transferred to the papers.

All of this was done because we were not allowed to have any liquor on the premises while we were applying for the license. When we finally got the license the bar was run by voluntary labour. A roster was made of committee men who looked after the bar from 10.00am until 2.00pm at which time it would be taken over by D. Cail (Bar Manager), Alf Edwards (Vice President), Ted Turner (Secretary & Licensee) and K McPherson (President). Because of these duties we also used to play as a four each Saturday. One of our members christened us the 'IRON RING' and later presented us with a trophy, which was an iron ring mounted on a wooden base. Why iron? Well it was deemed to be 'unbreakable'.

Back to the times when we had to use a ball race: As I said you had to get to the course early and put a number in the race.

At that particular time the course was run by the council who had a manager and most Saturdays would look after the first tee. I wouldn't say he did not like the club but he would go out of his way to make sure he did not show the club any favours. If you wanted to hit-off at say 9.00am you would have to work out what time the first hit-off time would be, add 6 or 7 fours per hour then turn up at that time. If you arrived late and your number was gone you would have to put in another number and start again. Because of this system the club decided to make an approach to the council for a block time for the club. That and two more approaches within eighteen months and we were finally allowed to book on a Wednesday for the following Saturday. It took a fourth visit to council until we obtained the system we use today.

Over the years some of the early members made application to redeem their debenture/s. In the late 1970's the committee decided to contact those who had not. It was a tough job contacting them as some had moved and some had passed away. When contacted some of them donated the monies to the club, all debts were finally cleared.

During the time we were going for the license we were not allowed to have liquor on the premises. On Sundays when we played pennant, after the game we would meet behind the cafe and pro shop which was then situated between the practice putting green and the public car park. Also during this time we had a very good social committee. We played 6 mixed foursomes a year, after which we ran 50/50 dances at the clubhouse using the special licenses. We also travelled on Sunday to venues such as Rosebud Country Club, Torquay Golf Club and Clifton Springs. One weekend a year we would travel to Tocumwal Golf Club leaving on the Friday night and returning on the Sunday evening.

In the late 1970's the outside of the clubhouse was updated to brick veneer, there was also alterations made to the inside and the car park was paved. Later on when Rob Lohman was President extensions were made and further alterations were done inside, these being done by Kevin Smith.

My apologies to the Ladies committee as I do not know a lot of their side of the story. What I do know is without their cooperation and assistance the club would not be as it is today.

I joined committee in 1964 until 1982. For any further information you would have to approach a later committee person.

*Kevon J. MacPherson*

## VGL Pennant - Dates & Results

Junior Pennant - Division 1			
Round	Date	Competition	Winner
1	Jan - 25	Brighton vs Glen Waverley	Brighton - OTB
2	Feb - 01	Centenary Park 1 vs Brighton	Centenary Park 1
3	Feb - 08	Australasian vs Brighton	Australasian
4	Feb - 15	Glen Waverley vs Brighton	Brighton
5	Feb - 22	Brighton vs Centenary Park 1	Brighton
6	Mar - 01	Brighton vs Australasian	Brighton
Final	Mar - 15	Ringwood	<b>BRIGHTON</b>
Scratch Pennant - Division 1			
1	Mar - 29	Brighton vs Centenary Park	Brighton
2	Apr - 05	Nepean vs Brighton	Brighton
3	Apr - 19	Yarrambat vs Brighton	Yarrambat
4	Apr - 26	Centenary Park vs Brighton	Brighton
5	May - 03	Brighton vs Nepean	Brighton
6	May - 17	Brighton vs Yarrambat	
Final	May - 24	Werribee Park	
Handicap Pennant - Division 3			
1	Mar - 29	Ringwood vs Brighton	Ringwood
2	Apr - 05	Brighton vs Glen Waverley	Brighton
3	Apr - 19	Brighton vs Tirhatuan	Brighton
4	Apr - 26	Brighton vs Ringwood	Brighton
5	May - 03	Glen Waverley vs Brighton	Glen Waverley
6	May - 17	Tirhatuan vs Brighton	
Final	May - 31	Werribee Park	
Seniors Pennant - Division 2			
1	Apr - 02	Eastern Sward vs Brighton	Eastern Sward
2	Apr - 16	Brighton vs Camberwell	Brighton
3	Apr - 23	Glen Waverley 2 vs Brighton	Glen Waverley 2
4	Apr - 30	Brighton vs Eastern Sward	Brighton
5	May - 07	Camberwell vs Brighton	Camberwell
6	May - 14	Brighton vs Glen Waverley 2	Glen Waverly 2
Final	May - 28	Amstel Park	

## Handicap Pennant Wrap

Handicap Pennant 2009 - report compiled by D. Meehan

The story so far...

### Round 1: Ringwood v Brighton

Brighton head to Ringwood uncertain of what lies ahead this year. Gunga, the manager, has managed to select 9 players in the 8 man side. Rumours are rife that Terry Meehan, scratch player, has been brought into our side on the strength of now being available through non-selection in Scratch, and showing enthusiasm to Peter Walton when attending Richmond's pathetic loss to Carlton.

"Houston we have a problem".

Every year something stuffs up before the first game and this year is no exception. The unfortunate victim this year is Doug.

Sequence of events:

0645 Doug collects Hungry

0650 Doug collects Sean

0655 Doug realises his car won't restart

0658 Doug rings Terry, wakes him up, and arranges for Terry to pick up Hungry and Sean whilst Doug waits for RACV.

0659 Doug rings Gunga, (Houston we have a problem)

0701 Gunga rings Doug back and advises him he has been omitted from the side.

0710+ Terry collects Hungry, Sean and their gear from Doug's static manoeuvre element (broken down car), and heads off to Ringwood.

0725 RACV fix Doug's car with two squirts of graphite into the ignition

0800 All present Ringwood

The side: The usual suspects, including Dave Lukeis playing 8, Tom Beggs and Steve Tate return to the fold, Terry Meehan playing 1, and successful junior Sean Meehan welcomed for his first Hcp pennant game.

The game: Bookends Terry and Sean start brilliantly and then well in front, with a number of close games, and a couple falling behind. Hungry, Tom, Dave and Pete all in tight games, but home side prevail. 4 and a half, 2 and a half win to Ringwood.

### Round 2: Brighton v Glen Waverley

Pressure is on Brighton to produce the goods after losing away the week before. A loss this weekend and the season is shot. Pre game, Gunga introduces new players Jasper Flynn, who was undefeated in Junior Pennant, and new team member Luke Biggs playing for the ball.

The Game: Sean goes berserk and never looks like letting his opponent into the match. Jasper is gaining ascendancy the further his game is progressing. Tom breaks through for his first win, and Luke does the job finishing too solid for his opponent, the old guard follow suit, and Brighton victorious 5 and a half, 1 and a half.

BTW (by the way): Doug, caddying for Sean hopes to have a bowl at the Bentleigh Club in the afternoon' and tells the bowlers that he hopes to get there by 3 o'clock. After Sean wins 8 and 7, Doug leaves for the Bentleigh club and gets there half an hour before the bowling was going to start.

### Round 3: Brighton v Tirhatuan Park

The game: Tirhatuan, being undefeated, appear to be the team to beat this year, and Brighton hoping to show them who we are, after a confidence boosting win the game before. We're playing for top spot. Brighton side unchanged. Jasper and Sean flying high again, Dave Luke is trying to match his playing partner Jasper's lead (all to no avail). Solid performance by whole team gives Brighton a very convincing win, 6 and a half versus a half, and the bar is raised higher. Gunga has team goals, and the first goal was to avoid relegation. In the other match Ringwood and Glen Waverley halve everything, so 1st goal accomplished. Can we win the flag? Why not?

BTW: Sean, being well up early against his opponent asks his dad what time he would like him to finish this week?

### Round 4: Brighton v Ringwood.

Some trepidation meeting the team who beat us at their joint. We know they will be very competitive. Pre game theme is the ANZAC fighting spirit. We need guts, we need to show what we are made of. We need to win.

The Game: Ringwood show very early they mean business. Some of the Brighton side going well, but the scoreboard is not looking like we are winning. But, consistent with the general consensus amongst the players that if an individual let's the side down, they may not make it back into the side, in what could very well be a flag winning combination, the whole side fires up. Sean is leading he way as usual at 7, Mark Oglethorpe playing 8 and back in the side, plays solid after a nervous start.

Dave is flying, "One ton 'is also flying. Luke, promoted into the 7 is winning. Brighton are looking good, then Ringwood fight back. The weather is worsening. Hungry and Luke manage halves, with Sean, Peter, Dave winning, giving us a convincing 3 and two halves, 2 and two halves win. Mark on the ball winning gave us the security of a team win earlier, and I think Jasper turning up from his tennis commitment gives all the players encouragement.

The way ahead.

Round 5 sees us with our home games finished, and only two away games left for the Home and Away season. Although we have done great so far, we are not "on the bus" yet. In selection news, Terry makes way for John Collins, who returns from a game with scratch, and is playing his first Hcp game this year. Tom has been rotated for Jasper who is available again this week.

More to follow - watch this space.

### New Members

The Brighton Golf Club Inc welcomes the following new members:  
Ladies - Jenny Bahramis, Rita Varma, Johanna Becker

### Hire of the BGC Club Rooms

Hirer	Date
Pat Molloy - Niblick Group (Daytime)	1 <sup>st</sup> June 2009
Chris Meehan Function	14 <sup>th</sup> June 2009
Graeme Alexander Function	11 <sup>th</sup> July 2009
St Peters Kinda	1 <sup>st</sup> August 2009
Pat Molloy - Niblick Group (Daytime)	5 <sup>th</sup> October 2009
Nepean GC (Daytime)	October 2009
Anita Morris Function	14 <sup>th</sup> November 2009

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*I asked my wife, "Where do you want to go for our anniversary?"  
It warmed my heart to see her face melt in sweet appreciation.  
"Somewhere I haven't been in a long time!" she said.  
So I suggested "How about the kitchen?"  
And that's when the fight started.....*

## Mens Competition Results

Date	Competition	Winner/s
Wednesday 01/04/09	Stableford	Lou Soligo (24) - 43 pts
Saturday 04/04/09	Club Medal & Trophy - Stroke	Medal - B Brasse (23) net 62 c/b Trophy - Abndrew Blunden (25) - net 62
	NTP - 4 <sup>th</sup> hole	N/A
	NTP - 15 <sup>th</sup> hole	B Brasse - 375cm
	Ball Comp	66 to 69 c/b
Wednesday 08/04/09	Par	Tony Hall (13) 4 Up
Saturday 11/04/09	Stableford - Pairs Aggregate	B Coyle/W Dooley 85 pts
	NTP - 4 <sup>th</sup> hole	K Brown - 50 cm
	NTP - 15 <sup>th</sup> hole	D Simpson - 104 cm
Wednesday 15/04/09		
Saturday 18/04/09	Stroke - VGL Club Medal & Trophy	Medal - Jasper Flynn (18) net 61 Trophy - Larry Lee (20) net 62 c/b
	NTP - 4 <sup>th</sup> hole	Thomas Kidd - 284 cm
	NTP - 15 <sup>th</sup> hole	Steve Rice - 214 cm
	Ball Comp	62 to 68 c/b
	4BBB Championship	J Henderson (13) /B Roberts (20) +10 Defeated Shaun Barclay (25) / Glenn Thomas (17) +5
Wednesday 22/04/09		
Saturday 25/04/09	Stableford A,B,C	A Grade - T Salmon (11) 39 pts B Grade - R Brown (41) pts C Grade - G Hergt (23) 38 pts
	NTP - 4 <sup>th</sup> hole	Frank Micich - 72 cm
	NTP - 15 <sup>th</sup> hole	T Salmon - 175 cm
	Ball Comp	34 to 38 pts
	Stableford	Chris Meehan (6) 42 pts T Govern (30) 39 pts
Wednesday 29/04/09		

## Ladies

Welcome to our new members Jenny Bahramis and Rita Varma.

An annual popular event for many of our ladies is attending a charity day for Bayley House. This was held at Little Frankston Golf Course in May and enjoyed by all who attended. Another little social gathering our ladies have been partaking in, is jewellery making; if you are at all interested speak to Heather D.

Sadly our Guest Day on 15 April was cancelled due to bad weather. We will try and fit it into our calendar later in the year, as it is a good opportunity to introduce new people to the club.

Our Charity Day is Wednesday 24th June and this year our chosen charity is Motor Neuron. Donations for the raffles and auctions would be appreciated. We welcome any suggestions for ways to make more money for this cause. This year we would like to increase our numbers for this event and welcome partners and friends who may like to join us in our 9 Hole Stableford Team Event.



Heather - Angela - Caroline - Mary-Paula - Elena  
Absent from photograph: Ella - Heather P. - Barbara

After a slow start, our Pennant Team enjoyed a win against Nepean and a draw at Ringwood; and hope to beat Dorset who are on top of the ladder at their course next week.

The pennant team wishes to thank Lee for her scrumptious catering and our intrepid leaders Ella and Mary-Paula.

### Ladies Competition Results

Date	Competition	Winner/s
Wednesday 29/04/09	President vs Captains day	Presidents Team 'D'
		Captains Team 9/5
Wednesday 06/05/09	Medal Day - Stroke	A Grade - Anne Hall (29) 65 net <b>Medal</b>
		B Grade - Suzanne Bingham (30) 66 net
		C Grade - Patricia Leslie (39) 69 net
	N.T.P. 4 <sup>th</sup> Hole	Mary-Paula Williamson
	N.T.P. 15 <sup>th</sup> Hole	Jenny Lewis
Wednesday 13/05/09	Brighton Medley Round 1 - Par	A Grade - Jenny Lewis (29) 4 Up
		B Grade - Pamela Sansom (33) Square
		C Grade - Jan Smallman (41) 3 Up
	Count Back	Jan Smallman from Hilary Higgins 3 Up

*It was a sunny Saturday morning, and Jim was beginning his pre-shot routine, visualising his upcoming shot when a voice came over the clubhouse loudspeaker - "Would the gentleman on the Ladies tee please back up to the men's tee!"*

*Jim was still deep in his routine, seemingly impervious to the interruption.*

*Again the announcement - "Would the man on the women's tee kindly back up the men's tee!"*

*Jim had had enough. He shouted, "Would the announcer in the clubhouse kindly shut up and let me play my second shot!"*

# Advertising Space

This space is available for advertising. The proceeds will go towards offsetting (pardon the pun) the printing and production costs of this newsletter.

For more details contact the Editorial Committee

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