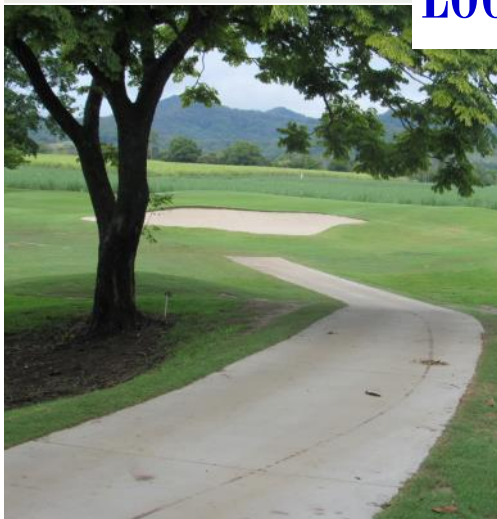




Looking back at 2022



New bunker and 17th buggy path



New Furniture arrived!



New Machinery



Our 23rd flood since 1887



Lynn & Johnson celebrated 1 year!



Record number of weddings
& functions



New front sign



New Rainforest path



Lucas's best year of professional golf



Our Club History (An extract from the Souvenir Program for the official opening - Saturday 18th August 1962)

Golf in Murwillumbah had its beginnings in the confines of the present Showground. The course was hardly a delight for the golf connoisseur but a few inconveniences do not deter most golfers. So for the addicts, numerous immovable obstructions notwithstanding, the Showground became the weekend Mecca.

The developing Club made a great step forward when it moved to a nine-hole course at Dunbible. The game and social activities prospered. The period at Dunbible saw the Club undergo a further growth which enabled a further migration. This time to Tygalgah.

At Tygalgah a nine-hole course was established inside the race course – quite a feat of course architecture. The course had much on the credit side but suffered the general distractions of a nine-hole layout. Clubhouse facilities were somewhat primitive but Club spirit helped to offset this.

The post-war mushroom growth of golf brought a crisis in the Club's history. The members were faced with the alternatives of developing facilities at Tygalgah or establishing residence on an area suited to the development of eighteen holes. There were many thorny problems associated with the question of moving but good counsel prevailed. The decision was resolved at a special general meeting in September, 1956, when the committee was empowered to purchase the present site.

Deciding to construct a new course was one thing. Constructing the course was something completely different. It is doubtful if anyone, not even the pessimists, was vaguely aware of the magnitude of the task. The problems fell into three categories – finance, or our lack of it – the nature of the design of the course – the clearing, draining and construction work necessary.

Fortunately the decision to move to Old Lismore Road produced a pitch of enthusiasm which will be long remembered but possibly never matched. This interest was reflected in the never ending discussion and argument about the new course. It also found expression in the willingness with which members and associates gave their time and labour to the project. A tremendous amount of voluntary work was performed in the construction of the course and Clubhouse. It has been estimated that in the case of the latter this amounted to £10,000 money value.

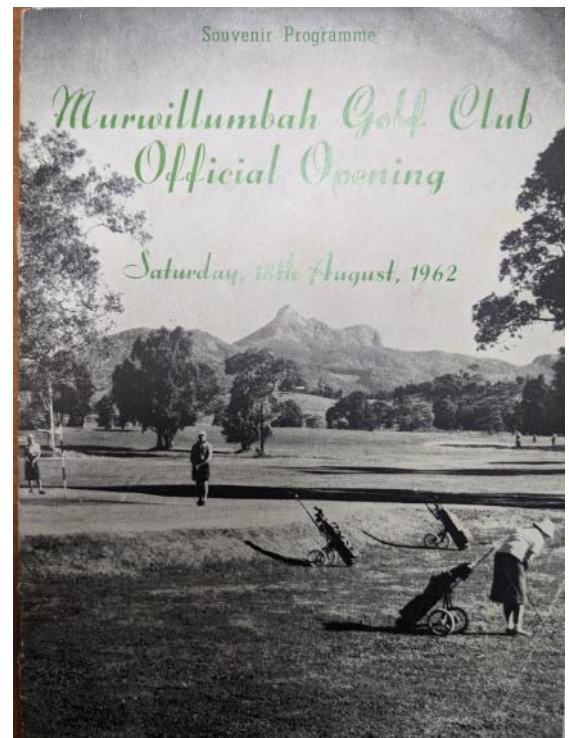
To enumerate the mistakes made: the unforeseen problems which arose; the fierce debates that ensued would be impossible. However they all served to reinforce interest and enthusiasm. No one will ever forget the work, disappointments, hilarity and profanity of those days.

None the less progress was sure and steady. With the completion of the Clubhouse and sufficient greens we were ready to move from Tyalgah. This historic event occurred in November, 1959. By June, 1961, we were playing fifteen holes plus three to give the eighteen.

By comparison with Tyalgah the course was a refined form of Chinese torture. Designed as an ultimate 72 par championship course with steep hills and small, plateau type greens the links were a severe test of golfing ability and physical condition. Holes were referred to by such colorful names as "Old Coronary," "Bloody Mary" – and worse.

In order to reduce the difficulties the layout was redesigned and modified. Further construction work ensued resulting in the present design and the completion of the full eighteen holes. So on 28th April 1962, we played a full course. The goal had been reached but the work far from completed.

To close this account of the growth of Murwillumbah Golf Club nothing would be more fitting than to pay tribute to those who played the leading roles in the recent years. Individual contributions have not been mentioned since such comparisons are always invidious. This course is a symbol of their achievement. So too is our membership which has expanded considerably in the last two years. Moreover they have made a lasting contribution to the game of golf, a privilege enjoyed by very few.



Promotions Report

Hope everyone had a nice relaxing Christmas and New Year!

Wow what a busy month December was..... Thanks to all our members for supporting the events. Our Kids Christmas Day was a huge success with over 100 kids in attendance, then add parents on top.... See our Facebook page for all the photos of a great day!

Members also loved our Mega 40 Ham Night and also our Free Christmas Members Hamper Night both greatly supported so thank you.

NYE was a nice relaxing night, over 100 booked in for dinner. The families thoroughly enjoyed the free photobooth and cocktails were also a hit with over 65 sold! Hopefully next year we can try and make it even bigger and better....

It is great to see social golf is also taking off, I think there is becoming a real shift, in the stereotype that golf is only a game for old men.... With so many young males and females taking up the game, myself included :) You just had to look at the social bookings over the Christmas, New Year Holiday period to see how popular the game of golf is becoming.... Our "best kept secret" golf course is becoming anything but that, as social players spread the word of just how great our Golf Course is! Its exciting for the future of our Club!

Natasha Bolden - Promotions & Events Coordinator



Golf Hints for Faster Play

- Be at the club at least 15 minutes prior to your tee time.
- You should be at the tee, 10 minutes before your tee time. You can warm up there.
- If the Fairway is clear, tee off before you are called. If the field is running early, you must be at the Tee ready to play.
- If you are the first few groups to tee off, you have a duty to keep up a good pace of play.
- To make the game move faster you should play **Ready Golf**. That is, if the player who should be playing first is not ready and you are, you should go ahead and hit.
- Remember in MATCHPLAY and especially Honour Board Events the player furthest from the hole must play first (no Ready Golf) and you should move to your ball quickly.
- Consider what club you will use while you are walking to your ball.
- Do not stand around watching your playing partner hit their shot. You should be at your ball deciding what club to use and having a practice swing. If you have a practice swing, do so out of sight of the player who is playing their shot.
- If your ball is in front of another player, you can still decide the club you will most likely use and have a practice swing, while they are getting ready.
- If a ball is lost, immediately call through the group behind. 3 minutes is the maximum time permitted to look for a lost ball.
- Remember, if you think your ball may be difficult to find or has possibly gone out of bounds, you can play a provisional ball. (This must be declared a provisional ball at the time.) If your ball happens to be lost, this will save time as you will not have to go back and replay your shot.
- Mark your card at the next tee, not at the green you just completed.
- Always be aware that if you are the furthest from the hole you will be required to play first and should move to your ball quickly. (MatchPlay & Honour Board Events)
- You should also play ready golf on the green. Often a player has just come out of the bunker, and it is still their shot, but they are raking the bunker. Another player should putt out first. It is usually easier and quicker for a player to putt out than remark their ball.
- If you ride in a buggy with another player, drop the player at their ball and proceed onto your own ball without delay.
- When you ride in a buggy and have played a shot, don't place your club back in your bag until you are playing your next shot and need to change clubs.

The most important rule: **KEEP UP WITH THE GROUP IN FRONT.** If you have lost a fairway. It is necessary to make up for lost ground. The golden rule is to always keep the group in front in sight.

MEMBERS – It will undoubtedly make for a happier club if you earnestly implement the above hints. Please do!

A round of golfing Happiniess!



Last month Bob Bolt had a Golfing game to remember. 44 points..... His best round ever in a golfing career of 36 years. How? Really relaxed.... ball did everything expected, chips and puttred perfectly. Last hole 4 stableford points. Bingo! Next game..... 24 points. Yes.... Just golf.



Yahoos who play golf too!



Veterans Christmas Luncheon

Hole in One!



Congratulations to Carrots for getting a Hole In One on the 2nd on the 10/12/22!

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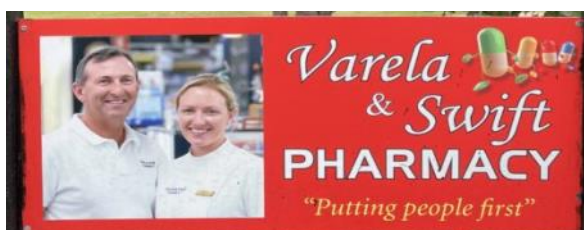

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Golf was meant to be easy.....

Golf was meant to be easy. Hit the ball off the tee and keep hitting it until it goes in the hole. However there is always people who seem to get bored with this and have to add some excitement. Just take these two cases for example.

Scenario 1- Playing in the Xmas Hams Ambrose day, member Rick Souter hit his "OLD" ball into a DRY LOOKING creek bed. Desperate to retrieve it he wandered it to get it. The photos show that "Old balls should be left where they are and not used". It took both Peter Heath and Peter Tomsett to skull drag Rick out of his sticky predicament. After 15 minutes of washing down Rick returned to his team and with a great show of fortitude went on to help his team win a ham each. New socks for Xmas Rick.

Scenario 2 – As some folk get older electronic buggies are a good idea as you still get exercise but don't have to pull your buggy along. What a great idea. With the remote control you just drive it along, park it while you play then set it off again. Sometimes however like all "OLDER" drivers there are times when there may be a lapse in concentration. What happens when you walk off the 15th green and your electronic buggy seems to be "GONE". "Shit where is my buggy?" you hear. With a mind of its own it seems the buggy needed to cool off so took itself for a swim in the dam next to 16th tee. Funny thing is 4 days earlier Peter Tomsett was helping pull Rick out the mud, and like the rest of us, did have some funny things to say. However Karma can be a nasty thing as it was now Peter's turn to get in the mud to retrieve his "runaway buggy". Photo shows Warren Colefax and John Walker helping Peter retrieve his gear. These things come in 3's so be vigilant everyone.



Golf Shop Report

A belated Happy New Year to all and may you exceed your golfing goals in 2023! This month we will be promoting "Get Into Golf" programs so if you know someone looking to start golf or even if you feel like a refresher for your own game, please register in the Pro Shop. At \$99 for 5 sessions, this is great value!

PRO TIP – Better Chip Shots

Ref: <https://palmdesertgolf.com/top-5-golfing-chipping-tips/>

1. Make Best Use of Your Hands, Feet, and Weight

Solid chips start with a "neutral" setup. Unlike a full swing, your posture is vertical, i.e. I like to see the club shaft vertical matching your spine (no spine tilt).

- "Choke" down the club ½ inch = better control.
- Next, shuffle your stance closer to the ball and feet close together.

Place more (but not too much, 60% is good) of your body weight going through your front foot than your rear foot. This will make it easier to strike your chip shots.

2. Turn your Body

Once your hands and feet are ideally set then it's time to chip the ball. The most important thing to understand here is that *you don't swing with your arms at all with the majority of chip shots*, unless you're looking to chip with significantly more distance. If you're looking to put the ball up on the green from a shorter distance away (as will be the case 9 of 10 times) then your arms are only stabilizers for the club. Instead, *you swing by turning your body to move the club.*

3. Take a Practice Swing First

This tip is one that's to be expected, but it's worthwhile to remind beginners that taking one to go through the mechanics of your shot is recommended. It is helpful to watch how the club moves through the grass.

4. Brush the Grass Beneath the Ball

This tip is one that can really make a difference for a beginner who wants to have their ball 'pop' up nicely as they chip. Going through the ball without getting much of the grass beneath it will cause the ball to shoot forward with very little lift – obviously that's going to result in poor chip shot. Similarly, if you go too steep with the club face and get under the ball too much then you'll get a great pop up but you won't get anywhere near the distance you want.

5. Find Your Best Chip Club

Personally, I use my 56 degree sand wedge for most shots around the green, but you should experiment with different clubs (Lob Wedge, Pitching, 7 or 8 iron) to see which one you are most consistent with. I can hit a high, medium or low ball flight with the same club by varying ball position and also how much shaft lean into impact.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Ladies Welcome Back Day 2 Tee start

Titleist Fitting Day

Titleist Back Marker Challenge

Men's Single Handicap Match Play Qualifying

The Scramble Elimination Ambrose
(One member per group)

Thursday 2nd February

Friday 3rd February

Friday 3rd February

Saturday 18th February

& Wednesday 22nd February

Sunday 26th February

Best of luck to our resident Tour Professional Lucas Higgins. He will be teeing it up over the next 8 weeks on the ISPS HANDA PGA Tour of Australia. Hopefully we'll see him atop the leader board and on TV, you can follow his scores on the PGA website here:

www.pga.org.au

Good Golfing,

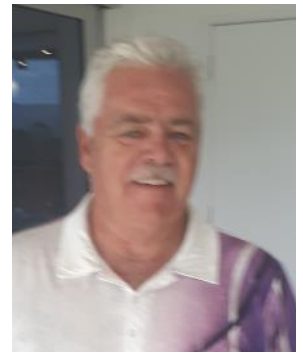
Shane Miley

Golf Shop Manager



Member of the Month

Thanks to Peter Heath who has opted to provide the newsletter editors with this regular feature!



Rick Souter - Member since 2000 - Age 65

Why you originally joined Murwillumbah golf club

I joined Murwillumbah after having a look at several courses in the region when I arrived from Queensland and liked the location, layout and presentation of the Murwillumbah course.

Working history

I taught for nearly 40 years in Queensland and continue to do casual relief at Pottsville Public School when needed. I am currently enjoying semi-retirement.

What you like about being a member of Murwillumbah

I love being a member at Murwillumbah for a number of reasons. Firstly, the course is the prime attraction for its layout and the excellent way it is presented week in, week out by the grounds staff even after the many weather events we have experienced over the years. And secondly, the friendly atmosphere of the club. The golf shop and bar staff are welcoming to members and visitors and the playing members share a great camaraderie on and off the course.

Anything else of interest

I have managed to have my first (and only so far) hole-in-one on the 10th several years ago and also managed to get my handicap down to 1 shortly after retiring. It now stands at 6. If only I could learn to putt!!!!

Tip for golfers

Stay away from muddy waterways. No golf ball is worth retrieving that much!!!!

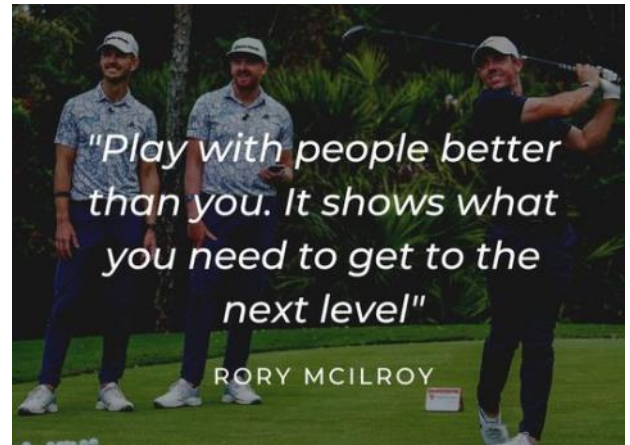
The Language of Golf

Ace	A hole-in-one
Albatross	Three strokes under par for a hole; also double eagle.
Apron	The short area located around the green which separates it from the fairway; also called the fringe.
Birdie	One stroke under par for the hole.
Bogey	One stroke over par for the hole.
Cup	The hole in the green where the ball is to be putted.
Dunk	A ball landing in a water hazard.
Eagle	Two strokes under par for the hole.
Fore	A warning to other players and spectators that your ball may hit them.
Fried Egg	A term to describe a ball that remains in its own pitch mark after it has landed in a bunker.
Gimmie	When your opponent decides that it is not necessary to play the next shot because he thinks you will putt-out anyway.
Haskell	The first modern golf balls, made with rubber straps wound around a core and encased in gutta-percha.
Jigger	Another name given to a four-iron.
Kitty Litter	A term used to describe a sand bunker.
Links	A golf course located within four miles of the coast.
Medal	A stroke-play competition where every shot is recorded and the winner is the one with the lowest number of shots in total.
Nineteenth Hole	The Club House Bar.
Stableford	Point scoring competition in which points are awarded as follows: 1 point for a bogey, 2 for a par, 3 for a birdie, 4 for an eagle and 5 for an albatross.
Yips	Nervous twitch causing players to miss short putts.

Laugh out loud

- “You’re late to the tee, John.” “Yes, well being a Sunday, I had to toss a coin to see if I should go to church or go and play golf.” “Okay, but why are you so late?” “I had to toss it 15 times!”
- Golf is a funny sport..... You hit down to make the ball go up. You swing left and the ball goes right. The lowest score wins and on top of all that, the winner has to buy drinks????
- Golf can best be described as an endless series of tragedies obscured by the occasional miracle.
- Golf is an easy game..... It’s just hard to play.....
- The man who takes up golf to get his mind off work, soon takes up work to get his mind off golf....
- Golf is a game invented by God to punish guys who retire early....

Quotable Quotes



LIVE MUSIC

Elliana & Dave




SUNDAY 12TH Feb 1-4pm on the deck



SUNDAY 26TH Feb 1-4pm Inside room

Varela & Swift
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