

Country Golf Program Report

A weekend of golf activity



GROWING THE GAME Narrandera 2021

- *Growing the Game Program*
- *Women's Golf Clinics*
- *Clinics for Disabled Golfers*
- *Dinner function + auction*
- *Art demonstration*
- *City v Country Challenge*
- *Past junior Re-union*

In support of a country golf club relying entirely on volunteers



Narrandera Golf Club

A challenging country golf course designed by Alex Russell in 1927

Incidentally, Alex Russell also designed Yarra Yarra golf course, Paraparaumu in New Zealand and co-designed Royal Melbourne golf course with the great Alistair McKenzie.

The Narrandera golf course is located on sand hills north of the town. The undulating terrain, narrow fairways cut from a cypress pine forest and sandy lies in rough areas combine to challenge the best of golfers. Needless to say, an ideal environment to learn a game requiring quality ball striking and accuracy.

Supporting this notion is the fact that seven ex- Narrandera Juniors chose golf as their career path. A fact that may well be unprecedented by any small town community in Australia.

Two of those juniors, Craig Warren and Ken Trimble competed and won on International Tours.

The catalyst for the success of many juniors, professional and amateur alike was the program facilitated by The Rothmans National Sport Foundation.

Ron Luxton was the golf professional engaged by this foundation. Fortunately for many, Narrandera was one of the vast array of destinations Ron visited to promote and grow the game. Ron became a "Golf Father Figure" to many juniors and was instrumental in guiding a few along their chosen career path in golf.

The commitment of Narrandera Golf Club members to junior promotion complimented the coaching visits by Ron and enabled the local juniors to have some form of structure to their competitions and development.

George Absolom, Barry Taylor and John Tuckett were responsible for overseeing the junior development prior to the club engaging the services of a Golf Professional in the 1990's

Thanks to a Government Grant which allowed the implementation of a renewed reticulation system and connection to town water, the golf course has been revitalised and serves as an attractive tourist asset to the town.

The Growing the Game Program organisers scheduled Narrandera as the destination to visit in April 2021. A visit that comprised goals of introducing new kids to the game, providing clinics to adult members and potential members, clinics for the disabled, a City verse Country Challenge and a re-union of past Narrandera Junior golfers.

As well as injecting funds to local businesses the 35 visiting golfers assisted in raising approximately \$8,500 for Narrandera Golf Club to help promote the game to local people.

Congratulations to a dedicated Country Program Team as well as a host of financial supporters, sponsors and donors who brought this weekend to fruition.

Narrandera Golf Club

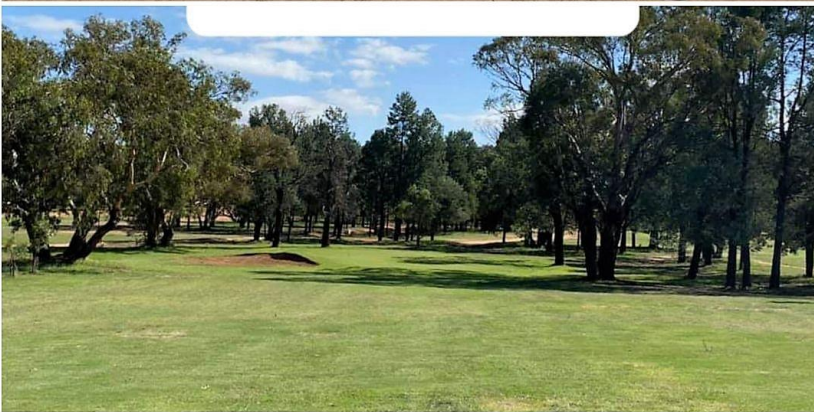


Present day view of 18th green & Club



“Brought to life with water”

***The contrast from 2018
before the implementation
of the reticulation system &
today.***



***Approach shot to the 3rd
hole.***

Country Junior Program

Since 2005 many Concord members have embraced the program and generously donated pre-loved equipment for the Country Program Team to prepare and collate for donations to country golf clubs.

Recently, members of Georges River Golf Club as well as many pupils have also viewed this program a worthwhile cause and kindly offered equipment.

Concord member Scott Beynon has provided the team a workshop and storage area that has enabled the program to continue to the present day.



Scott Beynon, Ken Trimble & Vince Curran



Gripping Expert – James Crawford



The Workshop

Proline Building – Scott Beynon

Road-crew Ron Cooper & Norm Buckley with Apprentices Jack Stewart & James Crawford

The Country Program Team

Organisers

Co-ordinating the April weekend were Gary Shanley (acting General Manager of Narrandera Golf Club), Rosemary Orr, Ken Trimble and Mark Waters.

Mark, an ex-Narrandera junior and now Sydney resident has been the driving force behind the recently launched Narrandera Golf Club Website - www.narranderagolfclub.com



Golf Coaches

Ron Luxton (Royal Sydney), Mark Harvison (Grafton), Craig Warren (Sanctuary Cove), Mark Panopoulos (Concord), Niel Bye (Tumut), Warren Gray (Prague, Czechoslovakia) & Ken Trimble





Assistant Coaches

*Geoff Brain (Tumut), Lachlan Jones (Georges River), Ryley Field (Georges River),
Ky Rodoreda (Georges River)*



***Geoff Brain (President of Tumut Golf Club)
Past Narrandera resident***



Ryley Field – Farthest west of the mountains he has been!



***Lachlan Jones (top right) on 1st tee - ready to convey expert
course management skills!***



***Ky Rodoreda & Ryley Field keeping a
close eye on Dean Kerr's Subway***

Transport

Peter Lancken from Kennards Hire has generously donated the use of a vehicle to transport equipment since 2005. Road Crew Norm Buckley, Ron Cooper & Vince Curran have clocked over 18,000km's in Kennards vehicles during that time.



Norm Buckley, Ron Cooper & Vince Curran



Junior promoters John Tuckett & Rosemary



*Thank you to Ron Luxton for his guidance, Narrandera Golf Club
& those supporters who made the program a success*

Narrandera Golfing Exports!

Torie Pratt

Golf Coach at Melbourne Golf Academy

Professional & Golf Coach, Mandalay Golf Club, VIC

Bruce Alderson

Golf Coach – Newcastle Driving Range

Brief Pro-am playing career

Trainee Professional, Beverley Park, NSW

Andrew Marsh

Brief Professional career - Current elite amateur

Captain of Cabramatta Golf Club, Sydney

Frank Foley

Golf Coach- Dusseldorf, Germany

Mark Harvison

Trainee Professional at Grafton Golf Club & Cromer Golf Club.

31 years as Head Golf Professional, Grafton Golf Club

Brief playing career (injury) -Lismore Pro-am winner

Craig Warren

Australasian Tour & Asian Tours.

Winner of 1994 Token Cup, Japan

Current Legends Tour Player

Ken Trimble

Australasian, European & Asian Tours

Winner 1990 NSW Open and 1990 Bolton Old Links Challenge, UK

Director of Golf Concord Golf Club 1997- 2015

Freelance Golf Coach, Sydney, NSW

Greg Harvison

Elite Amateur - +1 Hcp

Recognised Builder in Grafton NSW

World Mitsubishi Masters Champion over 55

Sponsors & Supporters

Golf NSW

Signaction - Chris Sinclair

Kennards Hire

Performance Golf

Proline Building - Scott Beynon

Len Bleasel

Callaway Golf

Peter Wright Agencies

Dint Putters

Georges River Juniors

Tony Moody

Golf Imports

Alan Whelpton

John Perkins - Artist

PGA Coaches

Equipment Donors