



From the President

Thirlstane Open

The annual Thirlstane Open was held on January 31. An impressive range of prizes were provided by a group of our members known collectively as The Sultans Of Swing. They have been major sponsors of the Open for many years now and their contribution is gratefully received by the club. Also Garry and Wendy Beaton have been sponsoring The Quaich since the first Open. The Quaich is awarded to the best nett score on the day, and we thank them for their ongoing support.



The Sponsors of this event (The Sultans of Swing)

Buggy Storage Container

Further to the recent opening of the container for storing push buggies, we now have an upper level which has been constructed by Tony Dick. There is room for members to store their bags and buggies at a reduced rate, as some effort will be required to lift gear onto the higher level. Contact Greg Boyd if you wish to take up this opportunity.

Retrieving Golf Balls

The General Committee has raised concerns about people trying to retrieve golf balls from the dams around the course. Some members have been observed in precarious positions, especially when the banks of the dams are dangerously steep. A much safer option is to purchase the used balls available for sale in the clubhouse!

[Replace Divots](#)

[Repair Pitch Marks](#)

[No cigarette Butts on the Course](#)

Barbeque Area

The barbecue area next to the machinery shed is available for member use as an ideal spot for social gathering. We are happy for groups to use this area but do ask that those wishing to use the area notify Greg, Katrina or Roger in advance. Thank you for your cooperation.

Practice Area

Now that we are getting people using the RV Parking area, it is important for members to be aware when using the practice area not to endanger the campers. Where possible, please avoid hitting balls close to the designated camping area. Hitting in one direction only will assist in this matter. Members are also reminded that practicing on the course is not permitted – players can play social rounds with no more than two balls. On the Friday before our Open event, someone used the second tee for a practice session which resulted in the area in front of the white tees littered with divots, and considerable damage to the tee bed. This is most disappointing given the huge effort our volunteers put into presenting the course in immaculate conditions, battling wind, heat and lack of rainfall. One selfish individual has undermined all the efforts our volunteers have put in.

Roger Eadie
President

Thirlstane Open

It is with pleasure I write my first article for On Par, thanks Liz for asking.

Once again, our Thirlstane Open did not disappoint. Combining the day with "The Quaich" sponsored by Gary and Wendy Beaton which has now ticked over 31 years. The statistics speak for themselves, 119 players, 44 visitors, six hours of tee times and possibly a total of 11 000 golf shots played during the day. Of course, The Open would not be what it is without the generous sponsorship of our own club members "The Sultans of Swing". Thanks guys.

The course was awash with nearest the pin trophies on key holes for all grades and the open wouldn't be complete without the raffle. This year our club members had the chance to contribute to the prize pool along with support from other sponsors.

Hats off to Jenny Winspear for a marvellous effort selling tickets. I don't think anyone refused a purchase, it was fantastic. The money raised was just short of \$1000.

At the pointy end of the day's events, it came down to a count back for the Quaich from Foundation member Peter Bonney and Mal Bransden, with Mal just edging out the win with a very fine 67 nett. A very good score from both players. Hayden Richardson took out A grade nett with a solid 69, Duran Hall and our very own Rohan Clarke took out the gross in their respective divisions. Pleasing to see that our members fared well in all divisions amid some tough competitors.

The main event of course is "The Open" category. With the last 4 to 5 groups of players all on single figure handicaps it was a high-class field for any tournament let alone our open and it came down to the last group of players to finish before knowing the eventual winner. For the second year running Nathan Richardson won the title with rounds of 34 and 39 for a gross score of 73. Several players were one shot back, multiple Open winner Cameron Allen, with Bayden Field, Shayne Walker and our local Pro and

February 2026

supporter of the tournament and our club Darren Spencer, all carding 74 gross. What a great day all-round. Everyone is looking forward to next year all ready.

Nathan Richardson

Winner: Nathan Richardson 73
Nett Winner: Hayden Richardson 76/69
Division 2 Winner: Duran Hall 81
Nett Winner: Peter Bonney 83/67
Division 3 Winner: Rohan Clarke 86
Nett winner: Mal Bransden 91/67
Quaich Winner: Mal Bransden c/b Peter Bonney



Nathan Richardson



Peter Bonney



Hayden Richardson

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Rohan Clarke



Gary Beaton with Mal Bransden

Mitchelson Shield



Katrin Mitchelson with Mike Rataj and Lynda Lowe

A well supported event with 36 in the field. We thank Katrina for continuing this event started by her parents. Congratulations to Mike and Linda and all who took part and long may this continue to be an important event in our golfing calendar.

We Welcome these New Members

Full Members: Lloyd Pilgrim, William Day (Gordon)
Intermediate: Flynn Regester, Zac Kohler
Social: Peter Shea (Kim)

Thirlstane Women

Ladies golf resumed after the Christmas/New Year break on the 6th January. It was a pleasure to have some warm and sunny Tuesdays without the wind.

The Club Handicap qualifier sponsored by Charlie and Bev Sienesi was held with a good number of players, with eight qualifiers, who will play off and the final to be played on the 24th February. The scores were excellent on the day with 66 to 68 nett. There was a five way count-back for the eighth position of 72 net.

Mitchelson Family Shield was held in January with a healthy field of 36 . Brother and Sister combination Mike Rataj and Linda Lowe won with a score of 89/63. Runners up were Karen MacDonald and Andrew Sherriff.

Senior Ladies resumed after a break and eleven ladies played at Tam O'Shanter. We stayed at Georgetown, some at the Pub and an Air B&B right on the water, which was a lovely spot with great views. We came home with winners Liz Sumpton 40 Points and Jill Murphy 39 points in their age Divisions, Wendy Smith, Rosie Beatie and Karen Macdonald also managed 2nd and 3rd places with very respectable scores.

Wendy Smith

Veterans Report

January has been a very busy and enjoyable month for the Veterans Group, we held our two day Tournament and numbers were healthy on both days and a very profitable outcome for the Club.

We thank Katrina, Leonie and Summa for providing the meal for each player over the two days and a most enjoyable meal it was. We also thank those volunteers who assisted with Raffle sales, Bar Duty, Starter Duty, Course Spotters and other sundry tasks, without all this help the success of these days is not possible.

The Vets Group is also conducting NTVGA Championship on Feb 26 and we will again be seeking help from members who are not participating to make this a huge success.

The AGM is due for early April and as all positions are vacant Vet Members are encouraged to consider applying for a position they may feel that they can contribute to our Group. Nomination forms will be placed in the Spike bar soon.

Thank you

Arthur Johnstone

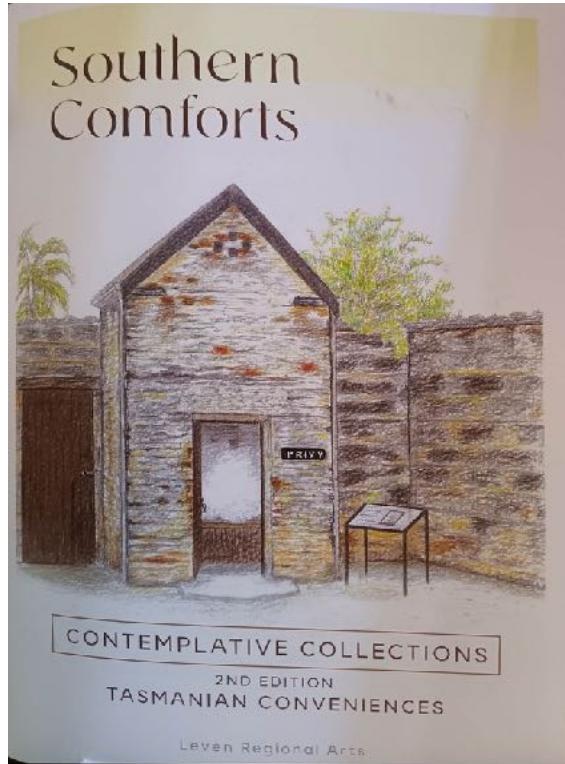
President Thirlstane Veterans Group

Southern Comforts

Our Golf Club had a small moment of notoriety recently when our “on course loo” made the pages of a new book.

One of our Wednesday night clinic girls, Cilla Gault, thought our loo was rather charming, sketched it, passed it on and it was selected for inclusion in “Southern Comforts: A Contemplative Collection of Tasmanian Conveniences”.

We’re not entirely sure whether to congratulate Cilla or the loo itself but either way it’s nice to know even our most modest facility has artistic appeal (see photos below)



Another moment of fame for the Thirlstane Golf Club was in an article in the Weekend Examiner 1/2/2026 with our 6th hole being considered as the 13th hole in a fantasy Greater Northern Tassie golf course. The Article will be on the notice board at the golf club.

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