# Newsletter of the Australian Golf Heritage Society



The aim of AGHS is to encourage the collection, research, recording and preservation of information and objects connected with the history of golf in Australia, to inform golfers, golf clubs and the community in general.

Winter 2012

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Tom Moore, Museum

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STEVE DOOREY

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Editor of The Brassie

Gerry Bush

Design & Artwork

Thomas Winter

# President's Message



Emma Williams, our Museum curator was successful in 2011 in obtaining a grant of \$4,000 from The Community Heritage Program. These funds were earmarked for a Significance Assessment of the Australian Golf Heritage Museum collection. This Assessment was completed in March this year by Veronica Bullock of Significance International after a very comprehensive survey of the Museum's collection. This report will be of great importance to the Museum as the exhibits become more and more valuable in their representation of that part of the history of the game of golf. This report has formed

the basis of a request to The Community Heritage Program 2012 for further funding. Further details of the Assessment are in this edition.

Our Board, at the February meeting, appointed Mrs Margery McWilliam OAM to join Dan Cullen DFC and Kel Nagle AM as our Patrons. Marg McWilliam has made a very significant contribution to the administration of Women's Golf at Club, State and National level and was awarded the Order of Australia for her services to golf. Marg is a Life Member of both Bonnie Doon Golf Club and Golf NSW. The AGHS is delighted to have Marg join Dan and Kel as Patrons.

Malcolm Bray has joined us as our new Captain. Mal has been a member of Pennant Hills Golf Club for fifty years playing off a very low handicap and representing the Club in Pennant golf. We wish him every success in his captaincy.

Our Queensland AGHS Chapter is making progress with Charlie Earp and Dr Peter Monk having conducted two hickory days so far and a further one planned for June. Shouldn't be too long before we can have our own State of Origin battle. Alan Grieve, recent hickory devotee and current US Hickory Open Champion, has joined the Queensland Chapter of the Society and this will bolster both their strength and their membership potential. Alan is a Wynnum four marker pennant player who plays off seven with his hickories. He will be defending his US title in July this year at French Lick, Indiana and will play in the Australian Hickory Championship to be held at Carnarvon on 30th November. In this regard all AGHS Members are invited to attend and compete in the Australian Hickory Championships on this date. Further details will be available on the AGHS website and email but pencil this date in to your diary now.

A further date to be keeping track of is the Annual General Meeting of the Society. All Members are encouraged to attend this meeting and to participate in the Society's meeting agenda. The Society would like to strengthen its Historian activities and any contribution in this regard would be most welcome and worthwhile in assisting the Board to fulfill the objectives of the Society in this area. This date will be advised as soon as it has been confirmed.

Good Golfing, Bruce Nairn.

The Golf Museum at Granville is proudly sponsored by Golf Mart and supported by Golf NSW, PGA of Australia and Museums & Galleries New South Wales
The Golf Museum (located above Golf Mart), 4 Parramatta Rd, Granville
Telephone 9637 4720 • www.australiangolfheritage.org.au

Open on Sundays from 10am to 4pm. Admission FREE.

The Museum can give advice on collecting, restoring and preserving old or antique golf clubs and other golfing artefacts.



# CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Since taking over the Captain's role from Tony Doggett, I have had a busy but also a very exciting time. My sincere thanks to Tony and all who have assisted me in settling in to this position.

### Dan Cullen Trophy, Long Reef Golf Club, March 17.

The outing was a superb day and enjoyed by a great little field of 9 highly competitive pairs. Refreshments out on the beachside dining area were followed by presentations and convivial chat. Sadly Dan Cullen was not able to attend this year and we wish him and his wife all the best. Congratulations to the winners, Les Browne and Greg Dousset.

#### Al Howard Trophy, Tocumwal Golf Club, March 29.

The Victorians (Golf Society of Australia) fielded nine but loaned NSW (AGHS) two to make it seven each side. Our team comprised Tom Moore, Des Froneman, Rex Mc Kay, Tony Doggett and Mal Bray. The weather was perfect as was the course and after the local media completed the photo shoot, the matches began at 12.30. The format was total holes won and lost so everyone completed the 18 holes. As we gathered around the 18th green waiting for the final two matches the score was EVEN! Tony Doggett and Tom Moore tipped the scales heavily in favour of NSW and we won by 9 holes. Congrarulations to all participants for the great spirit in which they played and especially to the NSW team for the retention of the "Al Howard" Trophy. Presentations were held at the final dinner chaired by GSA President Geoff Vincent. We thank Paul Burgess and the GSA for the great organisation and their gracious defeat. It was very pleasant to have the ladies present, both on the course and at the dinner, swelling our numbers to twenty-two. We look forward to the 2013 event which may be played at Yowani in the ACT. Try and join us next year for a really enjoyable hickory experience and social get together.

#### Ryde-Parramatta Golf Club Knight Ryders, 23 April, AIF Day.

The Knight Ryders are the veteran and other Ryde-Parramatta members who play each Monday. On Monday 23rd April, ten AGHS members joined them, and played against ten of their members all playing with hickories. The game was a Stableford event played in drizzly weather, but the course was surprisingly playable after recent rain. All found the going tough and scoring was modest. Our team made 254 points and the Ryde-Parramatta team 227 points, so we were comfortable winners. Des Froneman made a credible 37 points – well done Des! Highlight of the day was having lunch with Australian golfing icons Kel Nagle and Frank Phillips. We wish to thank Ryde-Parramatta Club and member Fred McDonald for his organising ability. Breakfast, golf, trophies and lunch – all for \$20 each. We look forward to another visit to this tough course in the future

# CAPTAIN'S REPORT (CONT.)

### Windsor Golf Club Veterans 27 April.

Four AGHS members ventured out to Windsor Golf Club to play against their veterans. Due to recent flooding Windsor has suffered greatly and teeing up was the order of the day. I must report that we were soundly beaten. Congratulations to Windsor for a match played in the true spirit of golf. But next time?

#### Bobby Locke Trophy 2011.

Congratulations to Peter Read. He won the final Match Play defeating Bruno Pase 4 and 2 at the Auburn Golf Club.

#### Bobby Locke Qualifying for 2012.

This was played at Auburn Golf Club on Thursday 10th May. Des Froneman presented the 2011 Trophy to Peter Read, and spoke passionately about his association with the great South African Champion and how he would be delighted to know that his name is perpetuated in this Australian Event.

The 8 qualifiers to play off for 2012 Title are: - Des Froneman, Peter Read, Bob Paine, Rex McKay, Tony Pickrell, Tom Moore, Bill Colhuon and Andrew Wilson.

Please refer to further details in this edition of the upcoming golfing events. However our most important event will be the Australian Hickory Championship on 30th November at Carnarvon. I would like to invite and encourage all Members to participate in this golfing event and to experience the game of golf, with hickories, in a national championship.

Interestingly, in the December 2011 edition of Through the Green, there was a conversion determined by the British Golf Collectors Society for the calculation of handicaps when playing with hickories. After much analysis across players of different handicaps playing in different events the following conversion factors were approved by the Society

Add 3 shots for scratch to 3 handicap

Add 4 shots for 4 to 8 handicap

Add 5 shots for 9 to 14 handicap

Add 6 shots for 15 to 20 handicap

Add 7 shots for 21 handicap and upwards.

These provisions apply to players in hickory competitions or matches, whose handicaps have been based on play with modern equipment.

Good golfing, Mal Bray

### AGHS Museum Receives Ossie Pickworth's Clubs

On Monday 22nd May, 2012 Bruce Nairn and I met with Ossie Pickworth's son Robert, who presented The Museum with the set of clubs Ossie used to win the 1954 Australian Open in Adelaide. These clubs were made by PGF Precision Golf Forging Co. in Sydney. The irons are forged blades with "S" (stiff) steel shafts, numbered 2 through 9. The 4 woods 1,2,3 and 4 are Persimmon with inlay faces and once again "S"(stiff) steel shafts. The steel shafted blade putter has the original one piece composition grip which is



# AGHS Museum Signifiant Article

As previously reported The Australian Golf Heritage Society's Museum application for a Community Heritage Grant in 2011 was successful and an amount of \$4,000 was received. These funds were to be used for an independent Significance Assessment of the Museum's collection. To this end Significance International were contracted to undertake the assessment which was conducted by Veronica Bullock.

Members may recall and article by Ann Crisp in the September 2006 edition of The Brassie which was a report on the Significance workshop held at the Parramatta Heritage Centre. Ann writes:

"Significance is the key in deciding on the objects to keep in a Collection. What special qualities make an object worth collecting, worth displaying and interesting to know about? What objects would you not collect or display and not even accept if they were offered to you? Provenance – who owned it, used it, made it, and more – allows its significance to be assessed. If an object is offered without Provenance then perhaps it should not be accepted. If you collect everything you might not have a clear idea of 'Significance' which:

- · describes the collectibility of an object
- is a method of evaluating objects based on criteria for rarity, condition, usage, etc
- should be a collaborative issue, not just determined by one person
- allows critical decisions about why we retain, accept or reject an irem

Having a good understanding of Significance helps to get rid of rubbish e.g. six of the same thing is unnecessary, although by accepting quite a few of the same, you may find that one of them is an especially Significant item because of its quality, who owned it or used it.

...Significance is closely linked to Conservation and the wrong approach to Conservation can destroy the Significance of an object. For example, books are part of the whole picture. Do not repair books unless they are to be used over and over. Otherwise they will get further from being truly Significant. ...Provenance (story) refers to an object's life history, how/where it was used, chain of ownership, if genuine, authenticity etc." This excellent background excerpt allows us to more fully appreciate the Executive Summary below provided by Veronica Bullock of the Significance Assessment of the Australian Golf Heritage Society:

"This (Significance Assessment) report identifies key elements of the significance of the Australian Golf Heritage Society (AGHS) collection using the significance assessment methodology recommended in Significance 2.0: a guide to assessing the significance of collections (2009)

almost worn away. Ossie was certainly one of the world's best putters. All the clubs are housed in a 9" black solid kangaroo hide bag. This also shows great wear and has had the strap repaired.

We regard this set as a priceless piece of Australia's golfing history. Many thanks to Robert and the Pickworth family.

Tom Moore

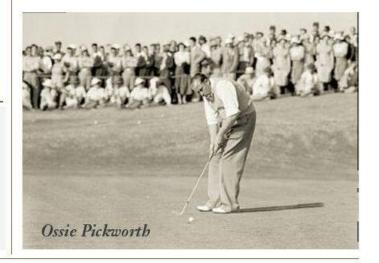
# AGHS Museum Signifiant Article (CONT.)

The AGHS collection is significant for its association with professional golf in Australia, for its role in documenting the bistory, technicality, personality and popular culture of the game of golf, and for making this publicly accessible.

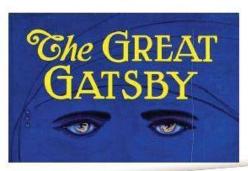
The collection is primarily of historic significance but is also socially significant to the many people who continue to make the sport the cornerstone of their lives – notably the amateur and professional members of the Society, distributed around Australia. The collection holds objects evidencing the inventiveness of golf club and golf ball makers, designers and testers, while nationally and internationally, significant Australian players and achievements are also represented.

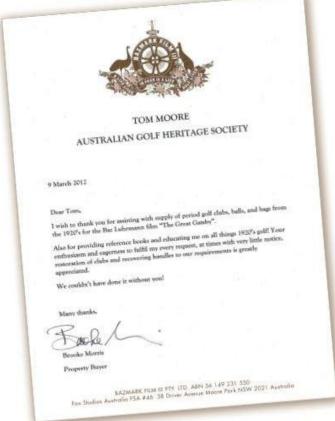
Unique collection items of national significance include the Frank Eyre ball trophy, 1930s film footage of Donald Bradman receiving golf training, the 1960 PGA Mutual Share Certificate and the Betty Dalgleish golf chub collection and bag. Rare items include a Golf-Ball Testing Machine, a 'Sunshine Rebuild' golf ball, an 'Empire' club carrier, a (design failure) Nylon beaded putter design, a Slazenger wooden golf bead evolution collection, a 1978 Golf Tek Swing Analyzer, a Carrington Hotel showcase, a golf ball used by Norman von Nida and a 1970s Australian Ladies Golf Union uniform. In addition, many collection items or sub-collections are representative and/or bave interpretive capacity. The AGHS has a small and solid bed of well-thought-through foundational and directional documents, which have served the collection well to date. Building on this foundation this Report makes eighteen recommendations for workers on the AGHS collection in the areas of Research, Targetted collecting, Management, Interpretation, Preservation and Promotion. Recommended next steps for the AGHS collection centre around fully documenting existing and incoming collection items, while developing a plan for targetted collecting consistent with its nominated title and role."

The achievement of the completion of the Significance Assessment of the collection is a credit to the ongoing dedication and involvement of Tom Moore and more recently, in her professional capacity, Emma Williams, and to all of the volunteers and donors who have provided the exhibits and accessibility thereto. The combination of the of the Assessment and 100 Year Anniversary of the PGA in Australia in 2011 have added a new dimension to the Museum in both content and presentation with some of the items in The Museum's collection being the only examples of their type to be found in Australia. All Members are encouraged to arrange to make a visit to The Museum.









### FILM :: THE GREAT GATSBY

The Great Gatsby is an upcoming American 3D romantic drama film adaptation of writer F. Scott Fitzgerald's 1925 novel of the same name. Directed by Baz Luhrmann, it stars Leonardo DiCaprio as Jay Gatsby, Carey Mulligan as Daisy Buchanan and Tobey Maguire as Nick Carraway. Amitabh Bachchan as Meyer Wolfsheim and Brendan Maclean as Klipspringer are set to make their Hollywood debuts in this film.

Filming began on September 5, 2011 in Sydney, Australia. The film is set to be released in Real D 3D and 2D cinemas on December 25, 2012 by Warner Bros. Pictures. It will commence in Sydney from 10 January, 2013.

Also making his movie debut will be Tom Moore. Tom arranged, through The Museum and his private collection, period golf equipment hickory and clubs as props for the movie.

Be sure to keep an eye out for them.



# SCOTTISH BOB GOLF CLUB SCORECARD COLLECTOR

My name is Bob Davies and I was born in Glasgow, Scotland. I arrived in Australia in 1970 and, after playing many sports - darts, rugby league, cricket, basketball and sport fishing, in 2002 I played my very first game of golf at the ripe old age of 58 at Darlington Beach Resort in N.S.W. I thought "this is the game for me", but after a couple of years passed by I soon realized that I had left my run a little late to be a class player. However, today I still enjoy playing a round of golf now and again.

While playing a round at Coffs Harbour Golf Club in 2005 a couple of my mates were cleaning out their golf bags when one of them handed me a golf club scorecard from Queensland and asked me if I would like it. As it was quite interesting to look at I kept it and thought to myself later that it could be an interesting hobby collecting golf club scorecards from around Australia. After a few months had passed I thought about trying to obtain scorecards from other countries - New Zealand being my first country - which was very successful and lo and behold I was hooked.

There were many avenues that I used to obtain my scorecards from around the world such as sending self addressed stamped envelopes, faxes and emails. If I did not receive a reply I would even contact other sporting clubs, tourism offices, tour guides and even some British Embassies to try and obtain scorecards. Of course there was always swapping scorecards with other golf club scorecard collectors from around the world, and it was a shock to me to find out just how many there are. Most of the collectors were collecting scorecards from every golf course that they could get their hands on. One of my close friends, Ian Lockhart from Dalkieth in Scotland, has about 50,000 scorecards in his collection. Christoph Meister from Hamburg in Germany, (who also has a lot to do with Hickory Golf Championships) has a fine collection. Paul Stabback, of Darlington Beach Resort, New South Wales would, I consider, have the biggest collection in Australia - about 45,000 cards. We are all good friends and I trade with them often.

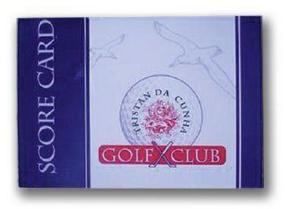
In 2010, I decided to change the course of my collection. I wanted my collection to be different to anyone else's collection and also to be the first person in the world to obtain a golf club scorecard from every country and island in the world that played golf and for a scorecard from the course that is the oldest in that country. I would look at my world globe, pick a country then draft a letter. I would always start with Hello; Good Morning; How are you? and finish with Thank you very much, in their national language. For example





a couple of months ago I wanted to obtain the Nuuk Golf Club scorecard from Greenland and as Denmark owned Greenland for 300 years they speak Danish so I wrote to the golf club and said "God Morgan and Hvordan har du det Hej" which is hi or hello and finished with "Tusind Takk". The Nuuk golf course is the oldest in Greenland and they were kind enough to send me a scorecard and this is how I prepare all my emails and letters to Golf Clubs around the world.

Each one of my scorecards has its own unique story to tell as to how I obtained it and the lengths it took to get it. Tristan Da Cunha is a fine example. After reading about the cruise ships that called into their port and how some of the passengers played a game of golf in a cow paddock and recorded their scores on a piece of paper, I tracked down a kind South African gentleman who was in charge of their golf course. I explained to him about my collection and of the many collectors around the world who would gladly pay for a souvenir scorecard and that the ships' passengers would also be happy to keep one. After a few months he sent me an email informing me that he liked my idea and he designed a scorecard for the Tristan Da Cunha Golf Club and he kept the first scorecard printed and honored me with being second person in the world to obtain a scorecard as well as being made an honorary member of their golf club. He sent me a framed membership card which is a prized asset in my collection.



Luck also plays a big part of collecting scorecards - being in the right place at the right time. My wife came home one day from visiting one of our neighbours and, after listening to a bit of gossip she informed me that our neighbour's daughter was coming home from Chad in two weeks. I thought "I wonder if there is a golf course there". I contacted the daughter and asked if she knew if there was a golf course in Chad. Lo and behold her daughter had played there and came home with a scorecard from the N'Djamena 9 Hole desert golf course. Who would have thought that such a poor country would have a golf course.

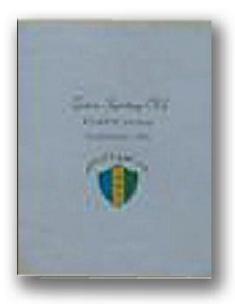


One of my most prized scorecards came from reading about a group of workers on McMurdo Station in Antarctica holding a golf competition on the ice for a bit of fun. After many emails and lots of hours trying to contact the right person, I managed to get hold of a kind American gentleman from Texas who informed me that they were going to hold a 2006 end of year golf competition, I asked him if they keep scores or have a scorecard or such and he informed me that he would make scorecards out of A4 paper and he sent me a couple, I asked him how could I thank him and he said that the school his daughter was going to were trying to obtain postcards from different parts of the world for a school project. I sent them heaps from all over the world, and I received a letter of thanks from the school kids which they had all signed. In 2007 I received a scorecard from Scott Base, Antarctica for the Ross Island Masters International Invitation with the Northern Lights on the homemade scorecard.

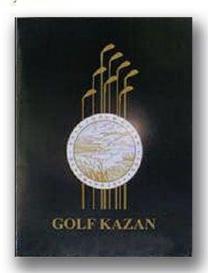




Of course it is not all plain sailing trying to obtain scorecards from golf clubs. While trying to obtain a scorecard from a golf club in Nigeria I received an email from a chap in Nigeria saying that it would cost \$25 American for a taxi to go to the golf dub \$25 for the score card, \$25 for the taxi back and \$25 for him making it \$100 American for the scorecard. Last August, while surfing the net on golf in Benin, West Africa I read about a Charity called Kids Right to Play and it was about getting young children involved in football and giving them an interest and some self esteem, I asked the Charity if the could please try and help me to obtain a scorecard from the Marina Hotel in Cotonou which has a small 9 hole course. They said they would try and would I be willing to make a donation to their Charity. I went to some local junior football teams and asked if any of the kids would like to donate their boots to the Children in Benin. I managed to get 6 pairs of football boots in excellent condition and sent them airmail which cost me \$60. The Charity managed to send me a scorecard via email.



The very last two scorecards that I have received must also be included as jewels in my collection. The Kazan Golf Course in the Republic of Tatarstan, which was built in 2004 by the Harradine Golf Company and the Fenti Golf Club from the Sudan opened in 2010 by the Harradine Golf Company. It was Mr. Peter Harradine himself who sent both scorecards to me and his family have had a big influence in my collection.



Among my collection I have some unique courses like the Green Zone Golf Club where 9 holes are in Sweden and 9 holes are in Finland, Furnace Creek Golf Course in Death Valley which is the Lowest golf course in the world and the Highest, La Paz in Bolivia. Ko'olau Golf Course in Hawaii as the Most Challenging, and the grassless One Boat Golf Club on Ascension Island voted by the Guinness book of records as the World's worst course. St Helena Golf Course where Napoleon spent his last days, The Royal House of Windsor Golf Course, the Drambuie Ice Golf Championships held in Uummannaq Greenland, if the ice is thick enough.





I keep thinking that I will run of countries for my collection but new countries are forming all the time like Southern Sudan, Kosovo, East Timor and countries like Belarus and Georgia are now having golf courses built, so there are still a few countries to have golf courses. I am currently seeking a scorecard from any of the following golf courses La Perla Golf Course in Albania, The Laico L'Amitie Hotel 9 hole golf course in Mali, and The Nullarbor Links in Australia,

I realise that my collection would and could never have been this big and extensive without the help of hundreds of kind men and women from all over the world who have never met me but send me scorecards from golf courses they themselves have visited or played. I appreciate the kindness the golfing fraternity has shown me be it the golf professionals, designers, course architects, greenkeepers, caddies, golf collectors, golf clubs, resorts and the every day devotees of this great game of ours. Not only have I had the pleasure of obtaining the scorecards but along the way I have made many friends, learnt a few words in lots of different languages as well as improving my geography and finding out a lot more about golf. To all my friends and the people who have helped me I offer my most sincere thanks to them in helping me with my quest to become the first person in the world to obtain a golf club scorecard from every country in the world.

Bob Davies (Scottish Bob)

Bob would love to bear from anyone who shares his interest in golf club scorecards or who would like to assist him in obtaining some of those that he may not already have. I am sure that eventually Bob's, and collections like his, will become very important in the continuing history of the game of golf.

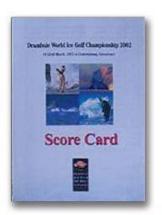
Bob Davies 465 Macclesfield.Rd Macclesfield Victoria, Australia, 3782

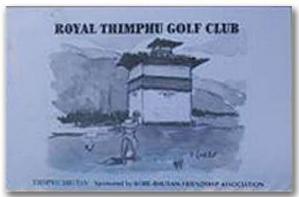
justus96@bigpond.com.



SCOTTISH BOB GOLF CLUB SCORECARD COLLECTOR











# MARCONI AND FRIENDS GO TO GOLF

It's interesting, having just had an extensive coverage of the 2012 US Open Golf Championship, to consider what was available in the period prior to television coverage. Golf was no less popular then and certainly in Great Britain there was a huge interest in the progress of The Open Championship and The Amateur Championship and The Walker Cup. The British Golf Collectors' Society journal Through the Green, in an article in the March 2010 edition describes the radio coverage given to golf, principally in the post war years 1946 to 1959.

At the commencement of this period the radio content was typically controlled by the BBC. A sophisticated suite of programming was presented that was designed to appeal across all audiences depending on what region you were in and providing you were prepared to move between networks. Technological breakthroughs in radio broadcasts during the period saw the development of the portable transistor and VHF transmission. There was also an existing strong demand for coverage of other sporting events such as horse racing; the Grand National and the Derby, professional boxing, cricket Test matches, football and Wimbledon.

The period between 1945 and 1960 may be viewed by many as the golden age of radio broadcasting. However, to follow the major golf events on the radio one needed to look at the daily programs carefully to ensure that you were on the right station at the right time. Generally all of the reports were short. They were a combination of summaries of play and some live commentating - if there was notable action at 18th during live air-time slots. Gradual advancements were made in the content of commentaries, in trying to cover the great expanse of the golf course, with the introduction of radio telephone services. The commentators themselves were noted golfing luminaries, not the least of whom were Bernard Darwin and Henry Longhurst. Darwin was principally pre war while Longhurst and Stewart MacPherson, subsequently to become the "Voice of Britain", were the main commentators at the outset of the period. Unfortunately, very few of these broadcasts survived in BBC Archives. Of those that did, by contrast Darwin's 1938 report of The Open was in the nature of a fireside chat after play had finished. MacPherson's 1948 report of The Open was live and immediate. He kept listeners in the picture reminding them of the key information - "Cotton's overall score and the number of shots he has played up the 18th" - at just the right intervals. Either way it was radio sports commentary at its best.

There is no doubt that the rudiments of the radio broadcasts paved the way for the initial television broadcasts that overlapped the radio commentaries of the period while television became more accessible to the fans.

The full article by Peter N Lewis entitled "It's on the Lip," is available in the March 2010 edition of Through the Green. www.golfcollectors.co.uk/through-the-green

# COMING EVENTS IN 2012 (FOR YOUR DIARY)

### 12th July 2012 Show and Tell

Auburn City Links :: Tee off 2 pm - 9 holes \$25 per person including refreshments Further details Tom Moore 9871 2798

#### 2nd September 2012

Liverpool Golf Club :: Tee off 3 pm - 9 holes Further details Tony Doggett 9639 2849

# 30 September 2012 Craigieburn Cup

Cragieburn Resort

Dinner & Guest Speaker

Overnight accommodation available – package deal More information to be provided – check on website Further details Peter Read 9871 3278

# 30 November 2012 Australian Hickory Championship

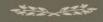
Carnarvon Golf Club \$40 per person including Dinner \$10 hire of hickories if required Official entry form available closer to date Further details John Lock 9709 4061

### EDDIE EMERSON OAM

AGHS Member, Eddie Emerson, was awarded an OAM in the Queen's Birthday Honours List for services to golf. Eddie is a retired Golf Professional and works tirelessly developing junior golf in NSW.

Congratulations Eddie. Well deserved.

# Vale Mavis Parry



Sadly I have to report the passing of Mavis Parry, who died on 7 May after a long illness. Mavis was a great help to me over the past 20 years or so when I first met her and her husband Darryl, at Rosnay Golf Club. Mavis was a stalwart of the Society since its inception, making herself indispensable in collating the cards at our events and spending countless hours as a volunteer when we started the Museum.

Rest easy, old girl, may the fairways beyond be wide, and the greens generous and three putting has never been heard of. Tom Moore

