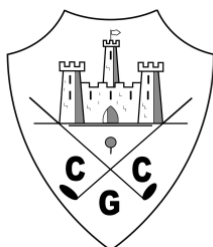




Annual General Meeting of the Castlemaine Golf Club

**Sunday 27th October 2024
at 3.00 pm**

**Agenda
Minutes of 2023 AGM
Committee reports**



**Castlemaine Golf Club
Annual General Meeting
Sunday 27th October 2024 at 3.00 pm
In the Clubhouse**

AGENDA

Welcome (Life members and members)

Members attending:

Apologies:

Motion: That the apologies listed and/or put forward by the meeting be accepted.

Moved:

Seconded:

Minutes of the 2023 Annual Meeting:

Motion: That the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on Sunday 29th October 2023 at 3 pm be adopted.

Moved:

Seconded:

Business arising from the 2023 Annual Meeting:

No business arising from the 2023 Annual Meeting

Correspondence:

No correspondence received for the Annual Meeting.

Executive Officer Reports:

President:	Michael Bottomley
Finance:	Bev Pike
Membership:	Marty Beck
Course:	Nigel Wilson
Golf:	Ross and Julie Bottomley
Sponsorship:	Peggy Ronnau
Clubhouse:	Owen Scott
Administration:	Malcolm McKellar

Motion: That the Executive Officer Reports be adopted.

Moved:

Seconded:

Elections:

The meeting appoints a member to conduct the elections. is appointed to this role.

Election of Executive Officers:

The following nominations have been received for the executive officer positions:

	<u>Moved:</u>	<u>Seconded:</u>
President:		
Finance:		
Membership:		
Course:		
Golf:		

Sponsorship:

Clubhouse:

Administration:

Ordinary member:

Our Constitution makes provision for the election of ordinary members to the Committee of Management. The meeting through a motion can decide how many ordinary positions it wishes to be in place for the coming year.

Motion:

That there be up to four ordinary vacancies to be filled as part of the incoming committee of Management.

Moved:

Seconded:

Recommendation:

That the following subscription fees will apply for 2025-2026, with an annual review to be undertaken:

Adult full member: \$600

Country member (living more than 60 km from Castlemaine Golf Club): \$350

Senior Student (Full time studies 18-25 yrs and Apprentices): \$300

Junior under 18 yrs as at 1/7/2023 (and a student): \$50

Social Member (non-playing): \$30

6 Month Membership: \$330

Moved:

Seconded:

Appointment of Legal Representative:

That Robertson and Hyett be appointed as our legal advisers.

Moved:

Seconded:

Special thanks to:

Retiring committee members, and Smith and Maltby and staff at Maltby, Accountants

The President closed the meeting at

Castlemaine Golf Club
Annual General Meeting
Sunday 29th October 2023 at 3.00 pm
in the Clubhouse

Welcome

Life member Moira McLennan was welcomed, together with other members.

Members attending:

Bronwyn Gudgeon, Martin Beck, Dee Sansom, Nigel Wilson, George Gray, Will Dodson, Owen Scott, Ian Shields, John Beet, Christine Beet, Greg Crowe, Helen McEwen, Jan Barratt, Michael Bottomley, Bev Pike, Julie Bottomley, Ross Bottomley, Glenn Carroll, Mary Harris, Lynne Johnstone, Garry Moore, Daniel Pollard, Leon Thomas, Rob Prendergast, Marj Lang, Jen Dyer

Apologies:

Peggy Ronnau, Helen Skinner, Liz Wilson, Trish Sharrock, Barb Livingstone, Carmel Cribbes, John and Les Prendergast, Megan Carroll, Gavin Lang, Leonie Auhl, Jon Rowbotham

Motion: That the apologies listed and/or put forward by the meeting be accepted.

Moved: Glenn Carroll

Seconded: Ian Shields

Minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting:

Motion: That the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on Sunday 23rd October 2022 at 4 pm be adopted.

Moved: Lynne Johnstone

Seconded: Mary Harris

Business arising from the 2022 Annual Meeting:

No business arising from the 2022 Annual Meeting

Correspondence:

No correspondence received for the Annual Meeting.

Executive Officer Reports:

President:	Michael Bottomley
Finance:	Bev Pike
Membership:	Jason Cordy
Course:	Nigel Wilson
Golf:	Ross Bottomley, Julie Bottomley
Sponsorship:	Peggy Ronnau
Clubhouse:	Owen Scott
Administration:	Dee Sansom

Motion: That the Executive Officer Reports be adopted.

Moved: Julie Bottomley

Seconded: Helen McEwen

Elections:

The meeting appoints a member to conduct the elections.
Leon Thomas was appointed to this role.

Election of Executive Officers:

The following nominations have been received for the executive officer positions:

		<u>Moved</u>	<u>Seconded</u>
President:	Michael Bottomley	Nigel Wilson	Glenn Carroll
Finance:	Bev Pike	Leonie Auhl	Peter Gresswell
Membership:	Martin Beck	Jason Thompson	Justine Vaisutis
Course:	Nigel Wilson	Michael Bottomley	Glenn Carroll
Golf:	Ross Bottomley	Garry Moore	Owen Scott
Sponsorship:	Peggy Ronnau	Barb Livingstone	Garry Moore
Administration:	no nomination		
Ordinary Member (Clubhouse)	Owen Scott	Michael Bottomley	Garry Moore
Ordinary Member (Assistant Admin)	Bronwyn Gudgeon	Jane Anderson	Helen McEwen
Ordinary Member	Dee Sansom	Jen Dyer	Mary Harris

Our Constitution makes provision for the election of ordinary members to the Committee of Management. The meeting through a motion can decide how many ordinary positions it wishes to be in place for the coming year.

Motion:

That there be up to four ordinary vacancies to be filled as part of the incoming committee of Management.

Moved: Michael Bottomley

Seconded: Dee Sansom

Recommendation 1:

That the following subscription fees will apply for 2024-2025, with an annual review to be undertaken:

Adult full member: \$575

Country member (living more than 60 km from Castlemaine Golf Club): \$315

Senior Student (Full time studies 18-25 yrs and Apprentices): \$300

Junior under 18 yrs as at 1/7/2023 (and a student): \$50

Social Member (non-playing): \$25

3 Month Membership: \$170

6 Month Membership: \$335

Moved: Leon Thomas

Seconded: George Gray

Appointment of Legal Representative:

That Robertson and Hyett be appointed as our legal advisers.

Moved: Leon Thomas

Seconded: Jen Dyer

Thanks were expressed retiring members, Jason Cordy (Membership) and Dee Sansom (Administration), for their commitments to their particular roles on committee, to Matt O'Brien for his continued commitment to handicapping, and to Ross Smith and staff from Smith and Maltby, Accountants, for their continued – and pro bono - financial support. The President closed the meeting at 4.20 pm.

REPORTS FOR 2023-2024

Life members, committee, (General) members and sponsors:

President's Report

The past year at Castlemaine Golf Club has been one of very strong growth in all areas of our operation – membership, golf activity, course development, clubhouse improvements, ongoing financial success and the use of a range of platforms for communication. It is also the year in which we celebrated the 125th year of our club – a real achievement!

We welcomed two new members to the committee – Malcolm McKellar as Administration Officer and Marty Beck as Membership Officer. Both are making a strong impact in their areas of responsibility.

Your committee has continued to be committed to developing our club's facilities to the highest standards possible. Their personal time given to their area of coordination to achieve this has been extraordinary. You will see the extent of their work in the reports attached. These achievements and initiatives can be invisible, but when put together, complete the tapestry of our club.

Outward visible changes over the past year have been:

Clubhouse:

- Renewal of the entrance porch
- New lighting
- The renewal of the dance floor
- Operation of the bar – organising volunteer staff, managing stock, expanding food options and reorganising bar set-up
- The commitment of our Parma Night Team – Marty Cross, Glenn Carroll, Julie Cross, Ross Stevens and Neil Campbell
- The excellent hosting of our 125th celebration dinner
- Management of private functions.

Thank you to Owen Scott, Dee Sansom and our bar staff volunteers.

Golf:

- Maintained good growth in fields, particularly in women's golf
- Introduction of a 12-hole Summer knockout
- The introduction of new club shirts and golfing accessories which have proved very popular
- Our major events have been very successful because of the planning and promotion, which have also attracted a high level of visitors
- Golf coaching with Paul Powell which happens monthly, the four-week program with the Steiner School and the currently-running Get into Golf program for women.
- The fantastic explosion of junior members.

Thank you to Ross Bottomley, Julie Bottomley, Bronwyn Gudgeon, Garry Moore and Greg Crowe.

Course:

- The completion of the four bridges – well-planned and beautifully constructed
- Excellent playing conditions have been maintained because weekly and other tasks were well-planned and implemented
- The ongoing commitment and contribution of our volunteers
- Ongoing clean-up of many areas of the fairway, plus replanting and stump removal
- The input of our 'Friends with Machinery'

Thank you to Nigel Wilson, Greg Crowe, Garry Moore, Ross Bottomley, Owen Scott, Laurie Harding, Will Dodson, Tony Olsson, Ian Shields, Ross Stevens, John Beet, Allen Hunter and James Vosty.

I also thank Bronwyn for her production of the Fairway – it is a great monthly production which is available in printed form or online. Also to Jason Thompson who keeps our socials updated and has produced wonderful posters for various major events over the year.

The not so visible, but tasks essential to our operation include:

- Managing our finances and ensuring we are compliant with the various regulations
- Seeking and negotiating with sponsors
- Application for grants
- Weekly counting of money
- Updating of golf changes via Golf Australia, Golf Victoria and our district
- Seeking volunteers to assist with private functions – 14 in the past year!
- Liaising with clubhouse users – Goldfields Quilters, VIEW Club, Parky Pals (a Parkinson's support group), and other celebration events.

I congratulate all major event winners across the year, our pennant teams back in March, and to Rob Prendergast and Klai Jerymn who represented our district at Country Week.

Thank you to Ross Bottomley for coordinating the successful reopening and promotion of our caravan sites. This has resulted in a good number of visitors staying onsite, not only visiting the region, but also golfing and attending our Parma nights.

Many of us play a variety of courses and see outstanding conditions and facilities, and often a vision for our club comes to mind ... maybe, why can't this and that ...

Let's remind ourselves ... Castlemaine Golf Club – One employee and a wonderful lot of volunteers!!
But let's keep the vision!

With all the good work being done, there are still many challenges for our club and these include:

- Equipment replacement – thank you to all who have contributed to our appeal which has almost reached \$46,000
- Implementing ongoing plans for renewal of fairways and tees
- How to manage the enormous increase in golf traffic outside our club events
- Planning for and renewal/replacement of our watering system
- The growing demand for and expectation of quality cart storage space
- Managing the wide range of tee times which then impacts on clubhouse traffic, bar hours, and catering.

Retiring from the committee at this meeting are:

Ross and Julie Bottomley, (Golf), Bev Pike (Finance), myself, and Dee Sansom, who has been a committee member for eleven years, most of which as our outstanding administrative officer.

All have given many hours and made a significant contribution to Castlemaine Golf Club and we thank them all.

Thank you to Glenn Carroll, our course superintendent – Glenn has his heart in our club more than being our employee. His commitment to his role and willingness to work with others has been much appreciated ... and then he is working on Parma nights, and fulfils other tasks that aren't necessarily in his scope of employment. We are indeed grateful.

In conclusion, I thank the members for their support for our club. The feedback has generally been very positive for the way the club is moving forward – comments that challenge decisions are also considered, and amicable discussions can be had.

Thank you for the opportunity to be president of CGC. It has been most rewarding to work with such a dedicated committee and to enjoy the company of you, our members.

I hope we can keep in mind ...

Castlemaine Golf Club – One employee and a wonderful lot of volunteers!!

Michael Bottomley
Retiring President

Finance Report

The club remains in a good position financially. An increase in our income has offset the rise in our expenses, giving a profit for the year. The full financial reports are included here in the AGM report.

Our income, derived from memberships, green fees, competition fees, sponsorship, bar sales, course and venue hire, functions and grants, has increased over the past year. Cash donations and forfeited vouchers which constitute "in kind" donations have been received. All these contributions are greatly appreciated.

Over the past few years our costs have increased significantly. The main items of expenditure are for fuel and the maintenance of the course and the machinery. Maintenance of the machinery is essential to keep the course in good condition and will be an ongoing expense as some of the machinery is nearing its lifespan. Some of the machinery will be replaced in the near future, using the funds raised in the 125-year Equipment Fund, which is nearing its target.

Our banking is now well established with the Maldon District Community Bank (MDCB). Our NAB accounts will remain open as we still hold a loan with NAB which should be paid off next year.

There are many people who contribute to the success of the club. The efforts of these unsung heroes are largely unseen but are much appreciated. Special thanks to Glenn and the volunteer helpers who keep the course in excellent condition for us to enjoy.

My thanks to Peter Gresswell and Phil Broderick (Phil sadly passed away earlier this year), who handled the banking each week.

Many thanks to Ross Smith and colleagues of Smith and Maltby, who provide ongoing financial advice.

I would like to thank the committees, past and present, for their support over the past 5 years. It has been an interesting journey as well as a privilege to have had this role.

This year marks the end of eleven years of exceptional service to Castlemaine Golf Club of our retiring President, Michael Bottomley. Already a busy person in the Castlemaine community, he took on the role of Administration Officer, then as President several years ago. He took a short break, and returned to the role of President in 2022. Throughout these eleven years in office he has been a wonderful ambassador for our club, especially during a time of considerable change. Always with a sense of humour and a keen interest in our club's development, and its people, he has been an outstanding representative for CGC. Thank you, Michael.

Bev Pike
Finance Coordinator



Income and Expenditure Statement

CASTLEMAINE GOLF CLUB

For the year ended 30 June 2024

	2024	2023
Income		
Golf Income		
Buggy / Cart Hire Income	9,458	6,665
Club House Hire	7,412	4,875
Competition Fees	52,384	45,618
Course and Venue Hire	3,297	659
Golf Cart Storage Rent	6,862	3,468
Golf programs	455	455
Green Fees	44,555	36,084
Total Golf Income	124,422	97,823
Fundraising Income		
125th Anniversary Appeal	861	-
Advertising & Sponsorship	18,001	17,199
Caravan Site Rental	777	-
Catering & Function Proceeds	8,763	1,921
Donations	2,779	3,930
Merchandise sales	761	-
QR code charge	102	-
Raffle Income	3,407	4,006
Rebate from Recyclables	1,008	-
Uniform Sales	3,795	-
Wood Sales	873	2,273
Total Fundraising Income	41,129	29,328
Membership Income		
Country Memberships (>60kms)	3,992	4,473
Junior Memberships	614	445
Membership Fees Received	65,737	60,102
Paid in Advance Membership	1,040	-
Senior Student & Apprentice Membership	200	-
Short Term Membership (Minimum 3 months)	643	840
Short Term Membership (Minimum 6 months)	1,426	-
Social Memberships	-	23
Water Levy Fee	20,256	19,677
Total Membership Income	93,909	85,559
Bar Income		
Bar Sales	93,574	66,546
Bar Food Sales	2,063	8,040
Total Bar Income	95,638	74,586
Total Income	355,098	287,297
Cost of Sales		

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.



	2024	2023
Opening Stock	4,456	635
Purchases	46,095	39,844
Closing Stock	(4,619)	(4,456)
Total Cost of Sales	45,932	36,023
Gross Surplus	309,166	251,274
Other Income		
Grants & Subsidies	3,930	30,000
Interest Income	1,354	8
NBN Tower Rent	9,841	9,601
Other Revenue	-	750
Unclassified Income	96	-
Total Other Income	15,220	40,358
Expenditure		
Advertising	1,000	2,292
Apprentice Expenses	1,088	2,610
Bad Debts	3,111	342
Bank Fees	840	1,616
Cleaning Contractor & Supplies	7,929	7,578
Club Uniforms	3,036	-
Course Maintenance	13,413	17,714
Depreciation	13,272	13,026
Donations Paid	2,455	2,050
Electricity	9,570	6,827
Epos commission	1,231	-
Filing Fees	95	-
Fuel & Oil	9,518	9,448
Gas	1,377	2,250
General Expenses	2,747	6,476
Golf Registration Fees	13,697	11,827
Golf Trophies	19,393	12,866
Greens Supplies & Maintenance	22,348	20,008
Hire of Plant & Equipment	4,192	8,319
Insurance	8,378	6,416
Interest Expense	7,592	8,780
Internet / NBN Charges	1,086	1,014
Licenses, Permits & Memberships	1,696	759
Machinery & Cart Maintenance	13,146	12,756
Membership refunds	2,333	-
Merchandise for sale	2,050	-
Postage	-	43
Printing & Stationery	2,283	4,290
Protective Clothing & Equipment	243	-
Rates & Taxes	2,906	1,766

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.



	2024	2023
Registration Fees	243	502
Repairs & Maintenance - Flood Costs	14,698	-
Repairs and Maintenance	10,021	6,034
Subscriptions	4,294	3,353
Superannuation	5,361	4,795
Telephone	545	562
Training	573	99
Wages - Casual Hire	-	545
Wages - Employee Entitlements Expense Provision	(2,450)	2,626
Wages - Employees	49,392	46,175
Waste Disposal	2,540	2,258
Water Charges (Club House)	1,602	1,220
Water Charges (Course - Annual Usage)	-	13,769
Workcover	631	632
Total Expenditure	259,475	243,643
Current Year Surplus/ (Deficit) Before Income Tax Adjustments	64,911	47,989
Current Year Surplus/(Deficit) Before Income Tax	64,911	47,989
Net Current Year Surplus After Income Tax	64,911	47,989

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.



Assets and Liabilities Statement

CASTLEMAINE GOLF CLUB

As at 30 June 2024

	NOTES	30 JUNE 2024	30 JUNE 2023
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2	109,091	90,966
Trade and Other Receivables	3	28,321	29,462
Inventories		4,619	4,456
Total Current Assets		142,031	124,884
Non-Current Assets			
Plant and Equipment and Vehicles	5	126,062	122,890
Land and Buildings	4	1,941,057	1,942,063
Total Non-Current Assets		2,067,120	2,064,954
Total Assets		2,209,151	2,189,838
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables	6	9,442	12,482
GST Payable		8,585	637
Provisions	7	14,099	16,549
Employee Entitlements	8	1,497	2,474
Total Current Liabilities		33,624	32,142
Non-Current Liabilities			
Loans	9	284,213	331,293
Total Non-Current Liabilities		284,213	331,293
Total Liabilities		317,837	363,434
Net Assets		1,891,314	1,826,404
Member's Funds			
Capital Reserve		500,383	435,473
Reserves		1,390,931	1,390,931
Total Member's Funds		1,891,314	1,826,404

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

Membership report

The CGC membership presently stands as follows:

Total	245	(an increase of 34 from last AGM)
Men	191	
Women	54	
Country men	11	
Country women	4	
Sponsor men	15	
Sponsor women	5	
Junior	23	
Student/Apprentice	3	
Social	4	
Life men	2	
Life women	2	

We have lost a few members, probably around 15-20 which is natural, but have also gained quite a few new ones, (around 50) I would estimate, especially in the junior ranks, which has been very positive.

Our membership fees were increased slightly from the last financial year to:

Adult full member	\$575
Country member (>60km)	\$330
Senior student member (full time studies and apprentices 18-25)	\$300
Junior member (under 18)	\$50
Social member	\$25
6/3-month membership	\$315/\$160

I understand that the committee will again seek to increase these fees at the 2024 AGM to reflect increases in the cost of running the club for the next financial year to:

Adult full member	\$600
Country member (living more than 60 km from CGC)	\$350
Senior student (full time studies 18-25 yrs and apprentice)	\$300
Junior (under 18 yrs as at 1/7/2023 and a student)	\$50
Social member (non-playing)	\$30
6-month membership	\$330

Members need to note that of the \$600, only around \$225 goes to the club after GST, water levy and GA fees and charges. The committee unfortunately foresees another significant rise next year. Even with this year's and next year's increases, we are still one of the most affordable memberships in the region.

We continue to offer flexible/monthly payment options for full memberships and on occasion offer other special promotional deals as incentives to increase our membership base. We try to be as flexible as possible while still remembering that the club's interests are vital.

New to this role, I was amazed at the level of effort required to keep the club running by the committee and all the volunteers, and I am very thankful to anyone who gives up any of their time to help the club. My job is made easier thanks to Glenn, Nigel, Ross and the other volunteers who have had the course in wonderful condition, for some time now.

Most members are very prompt and dependable in paying their fees, and the club is grateful to them as the cost of running the club is high and funds are constantly needed.

Thanks to the club and especially the excellent committee for helping me in my first year in the role. Special mention to Bev Pike, Ross Bottomley and Jason Thompson for their great assistance. Also to Jason Cordy for helping me into the job.

Marty Beck
Membership coordinator

Course Report

This year has seen a relatively mild summer and dry winter so the course has not seen the usual extremes of heat and rain, which has led to pretty good condition throughout the year.

The busy first part of 2024 when the Club hosted the region Pennant Finals as well as the usual tournament, meant that greens renovation and the next fairway renovation were postponed. In preparation for the Pennant Finals, the greens were scarified twice and top dressed in February and also vertidraind in March. Their condition has been consistent but renovation is now underway and we will also do another renovation in March, as has been the usual practice.

The next fairways to be renovated will be on the front nine on parts of 2 and 3, with preparation work to start late this year. We will use the same approach as we used for the 17th fairway, with sprigs harvested from our own fairways – 18, 10 – and spread immediately. This will likely take place in January and there will be a call for a working bee or two!

A major project during 2024 has been the replacement of the old creek crossings on 12, 14, 16 and 17 with new structures. With thanks to the many people involved and Vossloh for donating rails, we now have 4 new bridges which should last for many years. The total cost for the project was managed close to the \$25,000 flood relief grant.

During autumn and winter more clearing of overgrown areas, dead trees and weedy pines and wattles has taken place between 4 and 5 and along 17 and 11. This improves sight lines and speed of play as well as the look of the course and improved light and air. Stump grinding again removed over 100 small stumps in these and other areas.

Other activities during the year have included; regular grooming of the greens, applying fertiliser to the front nine for the first time in many years, application of gypsum on the back nine in line with our obligations with Coliban Water, and planting of a further 100 native trees and shrubs in areas away from general play. The original planting of so many trees and shrubs over the years was to lower the water table and this was very effective in managing salt at surface. Many of these plants are now dead or dying and replacing them is important.

Costs for the 2023-24 financial year are shown below. Apart from the bridges, servicing of our aging machinery was more than the previous year and purchase of the grooming reels was a big expenditure. Bridges aside, the costs of maintaining and improving the course was around \$80,000, similar to the previous year, but without the greens and fairway renovation costs which were deferred.



Thanks go again to everyone who has contributed to maintaining and improving the course, especially Glenn and the Wednesday warriors. Also to everyone who has come out to a working bee or loaned their equipment and expertise. We are a members' club and we all need to pitch in when required.

Nigel Wilson
Course Coordinator

Golf report

After a very wet spring in 2022 the spring and subsequent seasons for the committee year 23/24 were excellent.

This allowed all facets of Golf across the Club to flourish, taking advantage of the continued growth in golf across the wider community.

All major events have been well supported during 2024 with continued increase in numbers and visitors to the Club.

Week-to-week attendances do fluctuate across the year at Castlemaine given our membership profile, particularly over winter. However, competition rounds have increased year on year, particularly amongst the ladies.

Green fees and competition fees both increased a significant amount, and general use of the course has been very strong by groups and members alike, again due to good playing conditions.

There has been strong growth in membership across the year and it is pleasing that we have now some 20 junior members and the profile of full members is changing as younger groups are finding golf.

Congratulations to all Board event winners (listed on the Honour Roll page). As mentioned, these events were very well supported and hotly contested across the year. They also provided a wide range of winners and runners up.

The annual tournament was again successful with an increase in numbers, and given the entrant level and handicap range we decided to reintroduce the Fettleing Tournament Championship trophy for the best gross score for the event. This had not been played for since 2002 and well done to Klai Jermyn in winning this trophy. This event was also very well supported by sponsors.

Another change this year was to move the Max Gale memorial event to Australia Day. The field was very strong and would appear this event now has a new date after moving around the calendar quite a bit.

During the summer, the Summer Knockout singles trophy was reintroduced in a new format. It still remained match play but played over 12 holes to allow players more flexibility given the shorter time span to play a match. Again, members mostly embraced this with a good field of over 30 participating.

Appetite for different and varied events amongst the membership seems low with traditional golfing events still holding strong.

An attempt at a Sunday morning teams event fell flat and there seems little interest in the Orange short course, although this may come more into play when newer golfers, learners take to the course.

It is pleasing to report that there has been a growth in ladies' participation and further 'Get into Golf' programs are planned.

There has also been a MyGolf and a MySchools program conducted during the year. These will hopefully continue to change our membership profile and provide us with a future basis for the Club.

This is the end of my second year as Golf Coordinator and I will not be continuing in this role. Thank you to President Michael and all committee members for their support of Golf across the year. Also, to Lady Captain Julie Bottomley for ladies' support and assistance with the major events across the year; to Garry Moore for his endless work in Golf and across the Club generally, and to Greg Crowe for his assistance, particularly in the operation of the Summer Knockout.

Best wishes to the incumbent into the Golf role.

Golf and the Club in general are well positioned to continue to move forward and benefit from the growing interest in golf.

Ross Bottomley
Club Captain

Honour Roll

Mens Champion	Robert Prendergast
Ladies Champion	Megan Carroll
Bill Dennis Trophy	Robert Prendergast
Val Bassett Trophy	Megan Carroll
Mens Veterans Champion	Vin Walsh
B Grade Mens Champion	Jim Dimopoulos
B Grade Ladies Champion	Swee Ho
C Grade Mens Champion	Jayson Glenister
A Grade Ladies Nett Winner	Jen Dyer
B Grade Mens Nett Winner	Vin Walsh
B Grade ladies Nett Winner	Glenda Jefferies
C Grade mens Nett Winner	Trevor Bray
Mens Four Ball BBB Champions	Robert Prendergast & Daniel Pollard
Bud Annand Trophy Champions	Kors Van Eyk & Helen Skinner
Mens Foursomes Champions	Rob Prendergast and Daniel Pollard
Mixed Canadian Champions	Will Dodson and Jen Dyer
Frank Edwards Trophy	Jayson Glenister
Una Carroll Trophy	Bronwyn Gudgeon
Ladies Four BBB Club Shield	Julie Bottomley & Bronwyn Gudgeon

Medallists:

Men	Laurie Harding
Ladies	Dee Sansom

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Golf Lessons

Castlemaine Golf Club believes that skills coaching improves your game and keeps you coming back for another round. This is especially true for those who are new to golf.

Each month we have two group golf lessons of 6/7 golfers, except for winter, when we run one session. Powel Powell from Belvoir Golf Club is our coach, and the golfers see the benefit of learning and relearning skills to make the game more enjoyable and even improve the scores.

During 23/24 Paul delivered group lessons to 142 golfers. Peggy Ronnau has been taking the bookings for these lessons for several years now, proving how popular, and helpful these lessons are.

Women's Golf Report

Nineteen teams from across the district took part in our Open Day in March. The winning team came from Creswick, with Midlands coming in as runner up, another successful day with visiting ladies enjoying both the course and our lady members' hospitality.

Winners of our major events for the year:

A Grade Champion	Megan Carroll
B Grade Champion	Swee Ho
Val Bassett Shield	Megan Carroll
Par Club Shield	Julie Bottomley and Bronwyn Gudgeon
RWH 4BBB	Carmel Cribbes and Christine Beet
Doris Chambers	Connie Dimopoulos and Helen Skinner
Silver Spoon	Rosalie Roberts

Our Medal of Medallist winner will be completed in December.

The Milford Salver was played in October, with a good field of 19 teams, from around the district. The winning team was from our own club, which consisted of Helen McEwen, Helen Skinner and Jacquie Phiddian. It was a very successful day, with a successful raffle and money being forwarded to the club. This also occurred on the Open Day in March.

It is pleasing to note that overall participation in golf by ladies at Castlemaine has risen by 40% over the last 12 months, and with programs in place a continual rise is expected.

Thank you to Glenn and the volunteers for preparing the course for us for these events and throughout the year generally. We receive great compliments from visiting ladies. Also, a big thank you to Ross Bottomley, the Men's Captain, for all his help in these events and throughout the year.

As I pass over to Bronwyn as the new Ladies Captain I would like to thank all the ladies who have supported me throughout the last two years. I have appreciated all their help and commitment. I wish Bronwyn well in the role of Ladies Captain.

Julie Bottomley
Ladies Captain

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Get into Golf for Women

We received a grant from Victorian State Government Department of Sport to run a Get into Golf program for women. Peggy Ronnau ran the program, which commenced on October 7th with 21 women on the roll. We have another 8 on the waiting list. The program is running for 6 sessions; it includes an introduction to the club, basic skills in driving, chipping and putting. Paul Powell is assisting with the skills training and our well-organised team of volunteers is running the program. Many thanks go to Carmel Cribbes, Julie Bottomley, Bronwyn Gudgeon, Swee Ho, Glenda Jefferies, Jan Barrett, Dee Sansom, Jane Anderson and Genevieve Cantwell. Of the starters, we project that possibly 10 will become members of the club.

Sponsorship Report

Castlemaine Golf Club continues to have a strong sponsorship base. Our sponsors number 43 at the moment. Sponsorship includes tee signs, fence signs, sand boxes and sponsorship of our club events, and raises approximately \$20,000. The support we receive from our sponsors is greatly appreciated, and we encourage our members to spend their dollars at these businesses.

Some sponsorship support is received by way of supply of goods, services and donations. Leech Earthmoving sponsored our Una Carroll Breast Cancer Awareness day. We also thank Paul Powell, who runs our monthly group lessons, who also sponsored this event. This year we fielded 23 teams, and raised \$2,000 for the Breast Cancer Network. Bendigo Maldon Community Bank will be sponsoring our community Golf Day in March 2025.

Several sponsors are still in negotiations with the club regarding their preferred sponsorship deal; we expect these arrangements to be finalised in the near future. Our club is generous with our prize money, and most members have accrued their winnings in their account, for collection at a time that suits them. Winning vouchers can be spent with any of our sponsors. Some members choose to donate their winnings back to the club, and we thank them for their generosity. This year Drummonds Golf, Steve Barty Gas, Jellis Craig, Love Shack and Don KR have sponsored club events and we thank them dearly.

We have just delivered a letter of thanks to our sponsors, along with free vouchers for three rounds of golf. The sponsors have the option to use the vouchers themselves, or offer them to their employees or their family. We welcome new sponsors Martin Cross of CV Auditing, Greg Sinclair of Finn Business Group and Cassidy Landscaping to our sponsorship group. As always, the accountancy support we receive from Smith & Maltby is very much appreciated.

Peggy Ronnau Sponsorship Coordinator

Our sponsors are:

ASQ, Castlemaine Fresh, Carpet Flooring Group, Cassidy Landscaping, Castlemaine Hire, Castlemaine Mitsubishi, Celebrations, Cliffords Quality Cuts, CV Auditing, Don KR, Drummonds, Elgas, Fasom Plumbing, Five Flags Hotel, Finn Group, Good as Gold Carts, Jellis Craig, Kosmac & Clemens, Kowelec, Love Shack, Maine Shoes, Maldon and District Community Bank, Maxi IGA Castlemaine, McDonald Honey, McKenzie Davey Pharmacy, Mt Alexander Funerals, Mt Alexander Timber and Hardware, Outliers, Petstock, Pyrenees Premium Cuts, Saw & Core, The Rod Shop, Smith & Maltby, Spa Country Colonics, Stevens Mensland, Terry White Chemist, The Bridge Hotel, The Railway Hotel, Thompson Family Funerals, Tingays Smash Repairs and Warrall Honey.

Clubhouse report

I am pleased to be able to report that the clubhouse has experienced a very successful year in terms of upgrades and improvements to the clubhouse facilities and a strong financial trading period.

During the year we carried out an upgrade to the entry foyer to make it more inviting and to enable the display of some of our numerous photos and trophies of past years. The well-worn carpet was also replaced.

In the main hall of the clubhouse the carpet was removed to expose the parquet flooring, which was sanded and restored to its former glory.

The store room adjacent to the men's change area was tidied and fitted with brackets to enable easier access and storage of our hire bags and clubs.

All the lighting throughout the clubrooms, cart sheds and machinery shed was replaced with new eco-friendly more efficient fittings. The old hot water service which was close to the end of its working life was replaced with a more efficient heat pump system.

The concrete under the front verandah was refreshed with a coat of grey paint.

Maintenance work was also carried out on our ducted gas heating, septic tanks and the ducting of the evaporative coolers, which had failed due to ageing.

All electrical appliances throughout the clubhouse, cart sheds and machinery sheds were tested and tagged by Kowelec Electrical. There were only a couple of items which were deemed unsafe and these were disposed of and replaced with new ones.

Some changes have been made to ensure it meets current safety standards. The large fridge area was fitted with shelving to remove trip hazards and make it easier and safer for club members to handle new stock and restocking of the fridge.

We upgraded our ageing cash register to a modern point of sale system which enables users to accurately record stock movements and access up to date sales reports.

New glass racking was installed to enable bar staff to easily access glasses rather than retrieving them from under the bar counter area.

An airfryer was purchased to improve heating of bar snacks.

The clubhouse continues to be well utilised and provides a great venue for our members to enjoy a quiet little drink and some fellowship. The parma nights are proving popular with members and some of our visiting caravanners, who appreciate the opportunity to join us.

The highlight of the year was our very successful 125th dinner which was held on the 31st August 2024.

The clubhouse also proves to be a popular venue for hosting weddings, birthday celebrations, wakes, as well private functions for several other organisations. Goldfield Quilters use our clubhouse fortnightly, and the Castlemaine VIEW Club and Parky Pals meet monthly. All of these users provide very welcome revenue to our club to help offset running and maintenance expenses.

It is pleasing to see the bar is continuing to show strong growth in sales and profitability.

Since we launched the Container Deposit Scheme in October 2023, we have delivered 12,880 containers to the collection point in Chewton, to the value of \$1,288.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to all those club members who have assisted with the operation of the bar, the preparation and serving of our monthly Parma meals, and assisting with other functions during the past year.

We cannot function without the help of our fellow club members who give so generously of their time. I ask that all club members consider giving a little of their time to make our club even better.

Owen Scott
Clubhouse Coordinator

The responsibility of keeping our members informed on what is going on depends to a large degree on how we publicise what we are doing, each week and each month, around the club, and with this in mind we are very grateful to those who help to keep our members up to date ... by sending regular emails to our members, through the Fairway, and through our social media avenues such as Facebook, Instagram, and our webpage.

Social Media and Communications Report

2024 has seen another significant rise in the number of people engaging with the club through our social media channels.

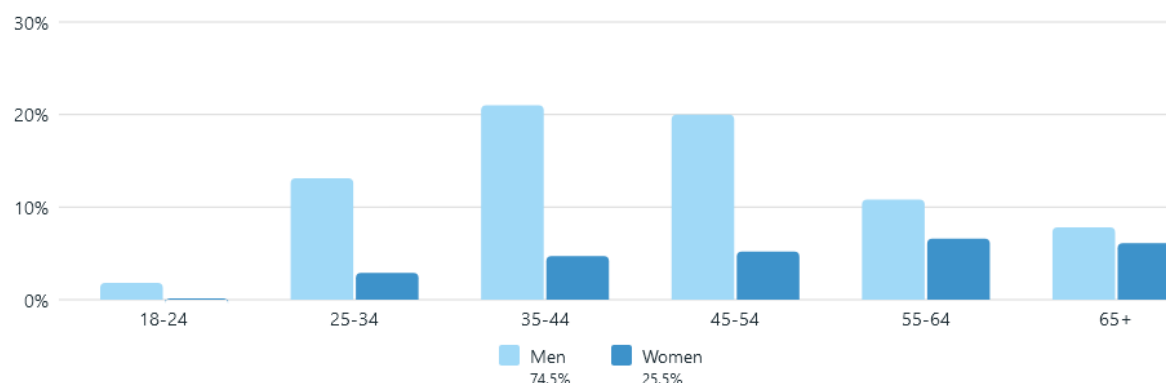
Our **Facebook** page now has 858 followers, up by 89 since the same time last year. As might be expected, 75% of our followers are male and the majority are 25 years and older.

Our followers contribute to around 21,000 direct engagements with results and promotions made through the Facebook page every year. This is more than 7000 visits up on our reach from 2023, demonstrating that our social media output is growing. This is mainly attributable to the production of consistent, original content including results on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays.

Our most popular content is always that featuring 'faces' of smiling club members after and during events or action from the course including groundwork. Unfortunately, people tend not to want photos taken of them so much – even if they win! If we can get past this cultural hurdle, we will be able to show even more people across the community the value of being involved in the club and encourage more people to join.

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Age & gender



Our **Instagram** page is also growing to have 157 followers (up from zero last year because it didn't exist) and now has a steady stream of visitors. Instagram captures a younger audience and requires a little bit more curation to be attractive. Most of our content is static – It would be a good idea for us to improve the standard of videos and tips that might go on our account this year – we might need to feature a few club celebrities (like committee members...).

The **WebPage** continues to be practical and serviceable, although it does look a little dated - it may be time to consider what upgrades we can make to the look and feel. The WebForms have been a big success, with loads of people booking tournament and other event spots through the website. Access to WebForms comes in at about \$45 per year, which I currently sponsor. We have also made it incredibly easy to become a member through these forms. In the olden days, one would need to download a form, print it, fill it out, and find someone to give it to – this is way too much hassle. Now they just click a few buttons and they are away.

For about \$45 per month, we could also take payments through the website for tournaments, public bookings, sponsorships, donations, etc. The total cost per year would increase, but it would be covered by 1 additional member joining up and/or 2 public booking payments per month. I think this is worth the committee considering.

Jason Thompson

The Fairway

Our regular newsletter, The Fairway, continues in fine form. Published monthly, it provides our members with all the latest news on activities around the club, always prefaced with a summary from our President, and followed by information on golf events, course work, clubhouse activities, and updates on membership status. I'd like to express my gratitude to all the committee members for their ongoing contributions.

In honour of our 125th anniversary this year, many issues included excerpts from 'A Century of Golf' by Jean Wildbore. It's a fascinating insight into the history of our club and is well worth a read (copies are in the clubhouse).

We also continued our 'Sponsors in the Spotlight' series, paying tribute to the vital support of our sponsors. Without their backing, the club would be in a much more challenging position, and I hope that by featuring them, we've helped drive some additional business their way.

The Fairway advertises upcoming events in our region – by attending these events, we hope that other clubs will support our events.

The Fairway is circulated to members by email. Some colour copies are also kept in the clubhouse as club copies, with a few spares (kept in the foyer).

Looking ahead, I hope the next twelve months will bring plenty of good news and successes for us to celebrate in future editions. Contributions from our members are always welcome.

Bronwyn Gudgeon