

# NOMADS NEWS

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2008

## FELLOW NOMADS

Hopefully this year's Charity Day was a welcome break from the ongoing concerns of the global financial crisis. What I battle to understand is how a country's currency, namely NZ, can appreciate by plus 70% over 6 years and then lose almost all those gains in 2 months? I guess some currency speculators have made some significant cash. Likewise, how does a public company lose half its value within a week? Was it possible to have been over valued by that much? The vagaries of the capitalist system will always be difficult to understand but surely this past month must have everyone shaking their heads in disbelief?

## CHARITY DAY 2008

This was held at Muriwai on the 16 October and the variable spring weather more than played its part. The weather was perfect and the course a picture. 71 players participated and hopefully enjoyed the day's golf along with the buffet dinner served afterwards. To all those involved well done, you did the club proud, and I am sure Kawau Emergency Rescue Trust appreciated our efforts towards their cause in being more prepared in case of any tragic circumstance on or near the Island. There were many donors and sponsors who need to be mentioned:

- Muriwai Golf Course for discounting the cost of using the course.
- Hole sponsors:- City Golf, Fidelity Life, ASB Bank, and John Packham Accountancy.
- City Golf for sponsoring the putting competition.
- Team McMillan BMW for donating the golf caps and the driver's training course.
- The Diamond Shop for donating a diamond pendant and earrings for auction.
- David Bell's law firm, Bell Anderson, North Shore.
- Prize donors who included The Warehouse, Warehouse Stationery, Janssens Delicatessen, Ambler & Co, Scottish Pacific Finance, Pakuranga Country Club, Pukekohe Golf Club, Lion Nathan, Vintage Wines and Millar and Co.

Peter Langerak once again coordinated this year's big day and again came up trumps, although he would have preferred players advising him of their participation a bit earlier! Unfortunately Peter could not play, having put his back out a few weeks earlier, and it was a pity he could not stay on for the prize giving to witness the club's appreciation at the prize giving. Bill Hanning organised a super prize table and it was an absolute pleasure dealing with Gail Johnston, the Events Manager at Muriwai, a very efficient lady! Neil D'Arcy Brain was a most able MC, Norman Fairweather sorted out the scoring and John Isaac and Tony Clephane helped with the booking in. Sue Clements ran the 'betting' or, more correctly put, the donating hole. And, of course to all of you who

entered and bought into the event, many thanks. Thanks also to Ian Braddock for going out of his way in drumming up support for the event, he even managed to get an article into the Rodney Times. David Bell was once again as helpful as ever.

The competition was a '3 scores to count per hole' and won by John Philpott's 4 ball playing with Phillip Paine, Mike Finnerty and David Ambler on 126 average 7 points a hole! Norman Fairweather's 4 ball were 2nd for the third time in 4 years on 116, Tony Clephane's 3rd on 115, Phillip Stickland's 4th on 114 and David Bell's 5th on 112 pts. Ian Braddock won the putting competition after a nervy play off with Neill Reid and Kev Senior and Neil Spencer won the nearest the pin.

It is hoped that the club will have decided on which charity organisation we will be donating to by March next year, so keep an eye out for any deserving organisation and pass their request onto the committee. Unfortunately a few members were away overseas, I see next year's date is set for the 15 October at Muriwai so hopefully they can make a plan.

Looking at next year's calendar, I see we have a monthly game arranged at Pauanui Lakes on April 24, am looking forward to that as it really is one helluva golf track! Remuera is also back on the calendar being the February game.

## HUAPAI 25/9/08

Golfing conditions were somewhat tough for the small field of just 25 players which was a great pity as the course was in great nick. They closed number 11 once again for re design (since reopened). Not before time, as I don't think I have ever come across such a botch up of a hole. I think the tee box was about the only part of the hole that was designed correctly.

**Results:-**

**Playing 4:-** Peter Cotton, Peter Morrow, Joe Average and myself

**Player of day:-** yours truly on 36 pts.

**Runner up:-** Russ Maloney 35 pts, Neil Spencer 34, Charlie Tapper 34 and Stephen Gladding on 32.

**Guest:-** Blair Smith on 34.

**NTP:-** Phil Stickland and myself.

**Crying towel:-** Hayden Gaskill. It really wasn't Hayden's day as he lost his car keys on the golf course. Funny how things like that seem to occur when you are playing outside of Auckland, now where the bloody hell did I put those spares????!!

Thanks to Russell for doing the fines, John Kelleher and Tony Clephane for doing the booking in, and Ian Braddock for doing the scoring. Fortunately he did that job a bit better than he played, having scored just 25 points.

Nomads Golf Club



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# NOMADS NEWS

## NEW MEMBERS

I am pleased to introduce some new members to those of you who have not already met.

**Phillip Stickland.** Phil is married to Kathryn, and plays off an 8 handicap out of the Grange.

**Andrew Robertson.** Andrew is married to Sue and plays out of The North Shore off a handicap of 15.

**Neill Reid.** Neill's better half is Sue, and he chops out of Peninsula Golf Club off a 9 handicap. Neill is easily the most statistically minded golfer I have come across, so don't be surprised when you see him pacing out his putts. Why he does that when he always chooses to use the putter anyway, is beyond me.

**Michael Niterl.** Michael is married to Lucy and plays out of Howick off a 15 handicap.

**Peter Morrow.** Peter is married to Maureen and plays off an 11 handicap. Peter has transferred from Nomads Boland (just outside of Cape Town) where he has been a member for 15 years and was a past Captain.

**Wayne Goss.** Wayne lives in Howick and is still awaiting to handicap having recently moved from South Africa.

**Paul Monks.** Paul is married to Dorothy and plays out of Waitemata off a 1 handicap.

**John Foyle.** John's partner is Francis and he plays out of Formosa off a 17 handicap.

**Zaine Mikkelsen and Matthew Weber** of City Golf have both been conferred with honorary membership as major sponsors. Zaine is renowned as being one of THE top golf coaches within Auckland.

## COMPETITIONS PROGRESS REPORT

**Roy Best:** David Bell (yes, the very one who hogs the crying towels) awaits the winner between Ian Braddock and Norm Weitzman in the final.

**John O'Sullivan:** Ian Braddock and Russ Maloney will play myself and Norm Fairweather in the semis as the latter absolutely nailed Banks and Hanning. It looks like the quarter final matches in the bottom half of the draw have yet to take place, please get on with them guys, time is short. If you cannot play arrange a spin off or something.

**Presidents Trophy:** (best 6 scores of the year) I lead on 209, followed by Ian Braddock on 208, Neil Spencer on 200 and Mike McKenna on 199. Ian has won this trophy 6 out of the last 7 years so hopefully it will change hands again!

**Vice Captains Trophy:** (best 4 scores from the last 6 games of the year). Yours truly leads on 140, followed by Ian Braddock on 134, Allan Cumming on 127 and Neil d'Arcy Brain on 120.

That's about all the info I have for you this month. Remember the offer that City Golf has at the moment where for just \$175.00 Zaine will be offering 5 lessons on how to improve your game at the North Shore Golf Club. It also might be a good idea to pop in to the shop and see them sooner rather than later while they still have product priced when the Kiwi was worth 75 US cents! You can check out their website on [www.citygolf.co.nz](http://www.citygolf.co.nz), its pretty comprehensive.

Look forward to seeing you at Pukekohe on the 13 November where we have a 12.30 start. If you have not already booked in, please do so on [www.nomads.co.nz](http://www.nomads.co.nz). If you do register to play please pitch up. We had a whole bunch of guys register to play at Manukau and not arrive, leaving the club to cover their green fees! By the way Peter Langerak is away for a few months, so we have included as an attachment the Nomads playing kit order form, particularly for the new members. Sadly some members continue to ignore the dress code, what a pity.

**Battle of the Bridge:** postponed from July but now will be played on the Pukekohe playing day. Go the North!

Lastly, some members may remember playing in a tournament we ran at Peninsula Golf Club a couple of years ago where funds raised were sent over to Zimbabwe to help the elderly folk get by under what is quite simply an absolutely bugged economy. For many of them their monthly pensions do not cover the costs of a loaf of bread. Fortunately there are some organisations that are helping them survive, and one such organisation is SOAP. (Supporting Old Age Pensioners). The cost of playing is once again \$400.00 per 4 ball and it would be great if you could play and support these desperate folk. Could you contact me on (09) 426-6058 or the organiser Steve Geach ((09) 478-6112) if you wish to play or assist in any way. I can send you the entry forms. The tournament is to be played on the 30 November and will once again have loads of prizes, boerewors (similar to sausage sizzle) and refreshments on the course.

Cheers

Mel

A tip to 'slow golfers'. Golfers who try to make everything perfect before taking a shot, rarely hit the perfect shot!

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