



**** This Newsletter and all previous issues are also on our club website. Our home page is now located at: <http://www.busseltongolfclub.com.au>**

James Carr Turns Professional

James Carr has bid farewell as a member at Cottesloe Golf Club having achieved his aim of a 2009 Australian PGA tour ticket, finishing 11th at the final qualifying school in December. James was one of six amateurs in the field of 35 who received a ticket. He shot even par for the 72 holes at the Peninsula Country Club South Course in Melbourne with rounds of 76, 69, 71 and 72. In January James attended the first round of Asian Tour School in Thailand and shot 73, 75, 72, 77 at the St Andrews 2000 course, but sadly missed qualifying for the final stage by one shot only. A total of 84 players from 250 hopefuls qualified for the final section where they joined 116 others already qualified. Therefore, in total, 366 players were chasing the final 40 qualifying spots. The winner shot 7 under for the five rounds and the 40th spot was seven over for the 90 holes.

James joined Cottesloe in late 2003 under our scholarship scheme, transferring up from Busselton on a handicap of three, having only taken up golf a few years previous. He quickly established himself as a star performer at Cottesloe and won three club championships in 2004, 2006 and 2007 during his five years here. State team commitments prevented James contesting the club championship in seasons 2005 and 2008, with his undefeated record in championship match play at Cottesloe suggesting he would have been hard to beat. James had a 75% winning record in five seasons of pennants for Cottesloe, as the club's leading player during that time. His win on the 38th hole in the final at Hartfield in 2004 clinched promotion for Cottesloe from Division 3. His great form since in the number one position sees him leaving the club with a pennant record to be proud of.

James also gave the club a welcome presence at state level, being runner up in the 2006 State Amateur final to the world ranked amateur Steve Darnall. He was selected in the state senior side that year, together with state colts teams in 2007 and 2008.

Many members will always remember James simply for his pure powerful ball striking that saw club professional Bruce Hay once rank his driving game as "world class" for its combination of power and accuracy from the tee. His small stature belies his great strength as anyone who took him on in an arm wrestle will attest!

James has expressed his thanks to all Cottesloe members for the opportunities, support and joy his membership has provided. He gives special thanks to his good friend and mentor John "Buzz" Parkinson, who has taken a special hands on interest in his welfare always. Farewell and good luck James!

Our appreciation to the Cottesloe Golf Club for permitting the reproduction of this article from their newsletter "The Colonel".

The Busselton Golf Club wishes James the very best of luck, good health and good golf as another Professional that started his golfing career with the Busselton Golf Club.

The Deck

The Board has resolved to seek the views of the members on a proposal to construct a timber deck with a sails cover on the east side of the Clubhouse. The project has not been costed and the Board has not made a decision to proceed with the project. Sketch plans are on display in the Clubhouse.

You can express your views on the deck proposal to any member of the Board or you can write down your comments and place them in the suggestion box provided near the display.

This is a project that has been talked about for quite a long time so please express your views to the Board.

HANDICAPS

The Board of Golf Australia has resolved to open discussions with the United States Golf Association about adopting the USGA Handicap System in Australia. Indications are that this system is quite complex. We will endeavour to keep all members informed of any developments as they occur.

STAFF CHANGES

The Board had planned to increase the number of employees on the course from 4 to 5 in the next financial year (Oct. to Sept.) as part of its 5 year finance plan. With our apprentices having to attend Tech. School and the need for the staff to take annual leave we were finding on occasions we had only two employees on the course at a time. As a consequence the Board decided to bring forward the employment of the extra groundsman and we welcome Chris Leeder who has been appointed to this role. And the answer is 'yes' it is Nick's brother.

IMPROVEMENTS

The Board is always trying to keep up the maintenance of the Clubhouse and surrounds and to generally improve the appearance of our Club. Some works completed and planned include:

- The roof guttering has re-painted.
- Limestone has been carted in to provide an overflow parking area and access paths to the motorised cart sheds.
- The remaining face brickwork near the kitchen and the alcove area will be rendered completing the progressive rendering of all internal brickwork.
- The fence surrounding the water tank and skip bin at the back of the Clubhouse is about to be replaced.
- A new dishwasher has been installed in the kitchen.

Golf Results

- Scroungers 28th May - **Magnitude Financial Services Trophy** – Winner Ken Madden 41 points, R/up Kerry Stewart 40 points
- Ladies 27th May – **BG's Fruit & Vegie Mart Trophy** – Winner Denise Davies 65 net, R/up Val Johnston 66 net.
- Vets 26th May – **Greg Dudley Trophy** – Winner Peter Swift 43 points, R/up Wayne Dowding 40 points.
- Sunday 24th May – **Club Trophy** – Winners Lyn & Garry Haar 45 points, R/up Michael Murphy & Geoff Hayes 44 points.
- Saturday 23rd May – **Willow Bridge Monthly Mug & Goblet** – Mug Winner Brad Smith 68 net, Goblet Winner Marion Fraser 72 net.
- Scroungers 21st May – **Cape Cellars Trophy** – Winner Shane Katauskas 40 points, R/up John Sullivan 38 points.
- Ladies 20th May - Foursomes Championship **Harcourts Busselton Trophy** – Winners Kerry Milligan & Sarah Bullen 180 gross, R/up Denise O'Keefe & Marg Hogan 182 gross.
- Vets 19th May – Championship **Ross Waring, Alan Hough & Ern Cockle Trophies** – Winner Bob Wall 74 points, Round 1 winner Gavin Dewar 39 points, Round 2 winner Will Cunningham 42 points.
- Sunday 17th May – **Foodlovers Corner Trophy** – Winner Chris Godden 40 points, R/up Kerry O'Hehir 39 points.
- Saturday 16th May – **Lacklustre Cup** – Winner Terry Faulkner 44 points, R/up Geoff Davis 42 points.
- Scroungers 14th May – **Sports Power Trophy** – Winner Craig Briggs 44 points, R/up Emie Cockle 43 points.

Comming Events

- Captain's Trophy – Saturday 6th June and Saturday 13th June
- President's Trophy – Saturday 11th July
- Mixed 4s Championship – Saturday 12th July sponsored by Fennessy's Holden & Nissan
- Solar Gain (Luke McCauley) Ambrose – Sunday 19th July
- Holden Scramble – Sunday 9th August

MEMBERSHIP

As indicated in the last newsletter, those members that have not renewed their membership have now had their memberships terminated. We had always expected a significant reduction in membership numbers at this time of the year, it happens every year. Members leave the district, retire from golf or simply decide they no longer wish to continue with their membership for a wide variety of reasons. The following shows how our current membership numbers compare with previous periods and with our current budget:

CATEGORY	MAY 08	FEB 09	MAY 09	BUDGET
Ordinary	485	533	496	480
Sunday	35	49	34	35
Regional Bsn. H/cap	52	58	49	45
Regional Other H/cap	71	73	65	65
Other	48	49	43	37
TOTAL	691	762	687	662

The above shows that our current membership numbers are comparable with this time last year, they are significantly down from our peak membership numbers in February this year (as was expected) and are favourable when compared with what was budgeted for this year.

TONY HAABJOERN

If one has a close look at the hole-in-one honour board, the name of Tony Haabjoern appears on four (4) occasions. Tony has had an ace in 1999, 2006, 2007 and 2009. All have occurred on hole number 3. After his third ace on No. 3 it was decided to alter the tee around because it was felt he had too much local knowledge of the hole. Not to be out done, Tony scored his fourth ace on the hole on the 16th May. Well done Tony.

SCROUGERS HIT-OFF TIMES

Because of the large fields and the fact some players have had to finish their games in the dark, it has been decided to bring forward the hit-off times by 30 minutes commencing **Thursday 4th June**. In addition there will be more morning start times allocated with players being able to hit off from both tees No. 1 and No. 10. While it is great that we are having large numbers playing in our competitions it is important that we all acknowledge that we will have to experience some changes in order to accommodate the large fields.

The Sod Squad.....

What is it you may say? Well, come along on Mondays from 8am to 10am and join the other members of the Sod Squad that help out with various works on the course. You do not have to be highly skilled; you just need 2 hours each Monday and the desire to do your bit to help make our course the best in the SW. For more information please contact the co-ordinators John Schuts or Ray Horton.

MONTHLY GOLF ROUND-UP

The month of May saw a tremendous attendance at all competitions with the weather being very kind except for one scroungers day and even then we had a very brave 75 starters. The month ended with a record number of starters for an 18hole event on a Saturday when 160 players hit off and all finished before dark.

With the numbers increasing in all events it would be most advisable for members to enter early to avoid missing out. We will have to limit the number of starters with the shorter days approaching. Members should note new times on the entry sheets and an increased number of morning hit off times.

The Match Committee wishes to stress on players the need to be on time for your hit off. When someone is late, the whole field gets behind and this is simply unfair to your playing group and all others in the field. In future, if someone is late that player will have to drop back to the rear of the field unless there is a vacant spot further down the field.

During the month we held the Men's Foursomes championships sponsored by Prestige Products (John Poleykett) and Busselton Dental Clinic (Simon Denney). Getting their names on the honour board once again were Glenn Tillotson and Rob Hogan with a great score of 74 gross. Best net went to Will Cunningham and Don Pinnock with a score of 69.

The Vets also ran their championships over 36 holes. It was a tight finish with Bob Wall winning on a count back from Peter Leaney, both on 74 points. They were closely followed by Bill Hilbert, Greg Carr and Rob Russell on 73.

The Busselton Super Rules ambrose was held on the 8th May. Approximately \$10,000 was raised for a local lad who is wheelchair bound. Congratulations to Peter Snook and all his support. The 'Lacklustre Cup' sponsored by Darryl Nicholls and John Lack raised about \$580 for Kids with Cancer. A great effort.

Some good scores were registered during the month. Craig Briggs had a 44, Terry Faulkner and Peter Swift had scores of 43. Brad Smith had a 68net to win the Willow Bridge monthly mug. In the vets championship Ray Pritchard had 75 points over the 2 days but being so young he couldn't win the event. Another feature during the month was Tony Haabjoem's hole in one on no.3. Pretty poor Tony seeing it was the 4th time on No. 3. What about doing it on one of the other par 3s?

This week, and the next, is the Captain's Trophy over 36 holes so get your names in early to ensure a spot.

Brian Pross
Captain

JUNIOR PROGRAMME

Busselton Junior golf began on the 3rd of May with about 30 young budding golfers keen to learn the sport. Since the first week the numbers have remained consistently high with each young golfer showing improvement and enthusiasm. So far 2 Tiger Tee golf competitions have been undertaken and have both gone well. The competitions run every second Sunday from holes 10-18. If you are out playing then and come across them please be patient and encouraging.

Rob Farley from Wembley Golf Complex will be coming down on the 14th of June to run a professional coaching session. Rob will also be available for adult coaching from 12.00pm until 4.00pm (1/2 hour session \$40), register at the Golf Shop. The following weekend, 20th & 21st June, the Graham Marsh Junior Foundation is providing two professional golfers to come and share their knowledge and expertise.

Congratulations goes to A. Yoxall with 42 in the Tiger Tee competition and to B. Carroll with 29 in the 4 hole competition.

For further information about Junior Golf contact Dave Holden 0419 890630, Greg Carr 9752 1516 or Brian Williams 9752 1812

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR MAJOR SPONSORS

- **HARCOURTS BUSSELTON**
- **BUSSELTON TOYOTA**
- **CONNECT HEARING**
- **VASSE NEWTOWN**
- **FENNESSYS HOLDEN AND NISSAN**
- **STREAMLINE UNDERGROUND SERVICES**
- **VASSE BAR AND CAFÉ AND LIQUOR BARONS**
- **ALL 4 x 4 SERVICES**
- **WILLOW BRIDGE ESTATE**
- **EIP FINANCIAL PLANNING**