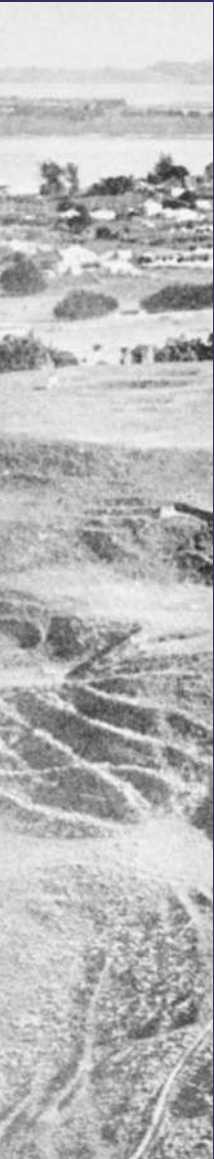




# Maungakiekie Golf Club



# The first 100 years...

by Garth Vipond





**Maungakiekie Board 2009**

*L to R: G Nisbet, C Winstanley, W Lindsay (President), A de Martin, B Raynes, Absent: L Ripley*



**Maungakiekie Centenary Committee 2009**

*Back Row, L to R: M Thompson, B Raynes, C Winstanley,  
Front Row, L to R: B Thomson, C Thomson, G Vipond (Chair), W Lindsay, J Christian, Absent: L Ripley*

*Front Cover: Jacob's Ladder hole as it was in 1909 and as it is today.  
(Special Collections, Auckland City Libraries (N.Z.) 7A5186*

# **Maungakiekie Golf Club**



**The first 100 years...**  
**by Garth Vipond**

# Foreword

**W**hen I joined Maungakiekie as a junior boy almost 50 years ago, little did I realise that at some time in the future I would be attempting to write its history. Although my childhood was spent very close to Cornwall Park, and my mates and I used to know every inch of the park and the One Tree Hill Domain, we were unaware of the fact that there was once a golf course there. Becoming a member of Maungakiekie changed all that.

Through conversations with senior members and historians such as the late Bob Reid I soon became aware that the Club had a unique history which started 100 years ago on ten holes crafted out of the slopes of a volcanic cone. Within three years it had grown to eighteen holes and ten years later it was operating two courses some 12km apart. The division of the Club into two Clubs, Maungakiekie and Titirangi, took place at the end of the original Club's 21<sup>st</sup> year and only 12 years later the Maungakiekie Club was forced to leave its Cornwall Park course. It quickly found a new home at Mt Roskill and has been there ever since.

At the start of this project the only research material available was the two publications that had been produced to mark the Club's 75<sup>th</sup> Jubilee and the 50 years of occupation at Mt Roskill, an incomplete set of minute books dating from 1946, a set of Ladies Committee minute books dating from 1924. The Manukau City Council Research Library quickly became my main source of information, with hundreds of hours spent scanning microfilmed New Zealand Herald's from the early 1900's. All sport was well recorded right up to the 1940's with a reporter always in attendance at a key match or the Annual General Meeting. The descriptions of matches gave me a clear picture of the early course layouts, with holes such as Jacob's Ladder and the Ampitheatre always mentioned, while the reports of the Annual Meetings gave me an insight into the feeling of those meetings which was far greater than could be captured in the formal minutes.

A Google search informed me that the Research section of the Auckland City Library was in possession of the original minutes of the One Tree Hill Domain Board. The Board was the first landlord of the Maungakiekie Golf Club, and many hours were spent extracting every reference to it and the Auckland Golf Club's earlier tenancy of the Domain. Just when I was struggling with certain aspects of the early history I was introduced to Des Wood, who had been engaged by the Titirangi Golf Club to write its history. Des supplied me with a CD version of the minutes of every meeting of the original Maungakiekie Golf Club, and along with all the other material I was able to gain a good working knowledge of the formative years of both Clubs. It will

be interesting to compare the first 21 years of the joint history of the two Clubs through the eyes of two authors, and hopefully between us we will find that little has been omitted and that there are no obvious contradictions. Much of what I have written on the Titirangi Course will no doubt be addressed in far more detail in the Titirangi book, and I look forward to reading about the finer design elements that Alister McKenzie was able to impose in his redesign.

More recently various Maungakiekie records which previously been thought to be missing, were discovered. Of particular interest were the minute books covering the 1930s, which gave me much information regarding the 1930 split of the original Maungakiekie into two Clubs, and the subsequent eviction of the Club from its course in Cornwall Park. Another valuable discovery was the finding of the original correspondence between the Club and Charles Alison regarding the design of the Club's new course at Mt Roskill. This was fascinating information involving a design being created in wartime on the other side of the world by an architect who at times had to resort to handwritten letters because all available typists had been assigned to the war effort. Analysis of this additional information did involve considerable time and has meant that the more recent years have in some instances not received the attention that they warranted. However, printing deadlines wait for nobody and if I have missed something important I apologise.

In writing this history I have attempted to focus on the various decisions which have been made over the last century that have led the Club to its present situation. Many of those decisions for various reasons took some years to make and to bear fruit, and in some instances it has been difficult to maintain continuity. Readers will find that with a few exceptions I have not named all of the key people who have been instrumental in the development and progress of the Club. To address this I have grouped these people together in a chapter headed "Tributes" which acknowledges the time given by members who work solidly behind the scenes and without whom the Club could not operate.

**Garth Vipond**  
**September 2009**

## **Acknowledgements**

Completing this book would not have been possible without help and support from many people. In particular thanks to the librarians at the Auckland and Manukau Research Centres; to Des for providing me with the early minutes of the Club; to Chris who kept feeding me with information from old books; to members who provided photos and other material; to Pauline and Jim, my two hawk-eyed proof readers; to those who sponsored pages in the book; and to all the good people involved in the formatting and printing of the final product.

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*Auckland Golf Club members playing the Ampitheatre prior to Maungakiekie's tenancy.  
(Special Collections, Auckland City Libraries (N.Z) 1-W1077)*



*Putting on Jacob's Ladder in the 1909 New Zealand Golf Championships.  
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*Putting on Jacob's Ladder in the 1909 New Zealand Golf Championships.  
The tee box is on the third terrace below the green.  
(Special Collections, Auckland City Libraries (N.Z) 7-A5186)*



# The Beginning...

**A**lthough it is well known that the Maungakiekie Golf Club was formally created on the evening of Tuesday 5 October 1909, it is worth stepping back in time to look at the events that led to its creation.

In the early 1900's there were only two golf courses in Auckland. The Auckland Golf Club had been established in 1894 and played on a property at Green Lane until 1901 when they moved to a new course located mainly (14 holes) on the One Tree Hill Domain and partly (4 holes) on land administered by the Cornwall Park Trust Board. The Auckland Ladies Golf Club had attempted to construct its own course but this proved to be impractical and they formed an arrangement with the Auckland Golf Club to use the One Tree Hill course at specified times. The Waitemata Golf Club was formed in 1905 and initially occupied paddocks adjacent to the Takapuna Jockey Club's racecourse.

In those times golf was very much a winter game as there was no greens watering, which meant that courses dried out and tended to become unplayable over the summer months. Closing Day really did mean the end of competitive golf for the year and the date for Opening Day was generally not decided on until a few weeks before courses were ready for play in March or April of the following year.

The Auckland Golf Club's eight year tenancy of the One Tree Hill Domain was not always plain sailing. In 1903 they were forced to close the two holes (The Pah and The Ramparts) that were played between Jacob's Ladder and the Ampitheatre because of danger to people using the track leading to the summit. Two additional holes were formed on the Cornwall Park Trust Board land to replace them. The Club was also being troubled by boys stealing golf balls. In the years leading up to 1907 the Domain Board was being pressured by other sports (cricket and ladies hockey) who wished to use the portion of the Domain closest to Manukau Road. After considerable negotiation the Club agreed to move a green to allow both hockey and cricket to be played in that area. Further restrictions on the use of the area near Manukau Road were placed on the Golf Club during 1907 and in August 1909 the Domain Board received a

letter from the Club expressing its wish to vacate its tenancy as from 1 October 1909.

The last significant act of the Auckland Golf Club's tenure of One Tree Hill was its hosting of the six day 1909 New Zealand Golf Championships in mid September 1909. It had earlier hosted the Amateur Championship at One Tree Hill in 1901 and 1905. The course that was used for the 1909 Championships had a bogey (now referred to as par) of 86 with the front nine containing no less than three par 6 holes! Twelve of the holes were located on the One Tree Hill Domain, which ran from Manukau Road to the summit, with the other six holes being located on the Tramway Paddock in the adjacent Cornwall Park near Campbell Road. The course was described as providing "...a variety of hazards including stone walls, sheep pens and outcrops of volcanic rock." The stone wall which marked the boundary between the One Tree Hill Domain and Cornwall Park still exists, running from the Sorrento restaurant, past the Auckland Archery Club and the farm manager's house near the start of Twin Oak Drive.

For the record the Open Championship was won for the second year in succession by a 19 year old professional golfer, J A Clements of Wanganui, who had rounds of 80, 82, 81, 81 to total 324 or 20 under bogey. Clements also won the Professional match play event later in the week with A D S Duncan winning the Amateur Championship. Duncan had also won the Amateur Championship on the two previous occasions it was played at One Tree Hill, in 1901 and 1905.

At this point it is appropriate to introduce Percy Nicol Kingswell, who could well be regarded as the "Father of Maungakiekie." In the words of Harman Reeves, author of the book *In the Years that are Gone*, "P N Kingswell was one of the most brilliant and brainy men I have ever met, and although he was a speculator, and sometimes did things that the average businessman would not do, the fact remains that he was above the ordinary intellect." Percy Kingswell was well known in the West Coast of the South Island through the speculative and successful deals he made in the gold mining industry. He appears to have moved to Auckland during 1908, and joined the Auckland Golf Club. Sometime prior to March 1909 he

entered into an agreement with that Club to purchase their Golf Road Clubhouse. The agreement allowed the Golf Club to continue to use the Clubhouse upon terms which secured to the Club full possession until 1 November 1909, and adequate provision for temporary accommodation thereafter until the Otahuhu property at Middlemore was available. Des Walker, a well known Maungakiekie member, later owned and lived in the former Clubhouse from 1970 to 1995.

At its August 1909 meeting the Domain Board also resolved to arrange with the "Amateur" golf players to play golf on a portion of the Domain after the Auckland Golf Club's lease had terminated. The use of the term "Amateur" is intriguing and may have been used to distance the future use of the Domain from the New Zealand Open tournament which was open to both professionals and amateurs and which was to be played on the Auckland Golf Club course during the following month. Although the reason behind the Board making that decision is not clear, subsequent events indicate that Kingswell may have been involved in some manner.

The first formal indication that a new golf Club was about to be formed was a "Preliminary" meeting on 28 September 1909 which Kingswell attended with ten other Auckland Golf Club members. At that meeting Kingswell recommended to the others that a Club be formed to play golf at the One Tree Hill Domain on a nine hole course being part of the links just vacated by the Auckland Golf Club. He also indicated that he had promises of support from a large number of players. The meeting agreed with Kingswell's suggestion and decided to form a Provisional Committee which met immediately to pass resolutions mainly relating to a General Meeting which they had organised for the following week for the purpose of "carrying on of a nine-hole practice course at One Tree Hill."

The resolutions passed by the Provisional Committee are worthy of mention. Two of them related to motions which would be put to the following week's General Meeting in respect of annual subscriptions for the new Club and restrictions on the Saturday playing rights of those gentlemen members of the Auckland Golf Club who would become members of it.

A further resolution set up a sub-Committee comprising Kingswell, H A Marriner and Dr Dudley to interview the Auckland Ladies Golf Club with a view to inviting them to the next week's General Meeting. This was a significant move as at that time the Auckland Golf Club and the Auckland Ladies Golf Club (the largest ladies Club in New

Zealand) were separate entities, and as events subsequently proved, the structure of the new Club was designed to provide for both ladies and gentlemen to be members of the same Club.

Another resolution set up a sub-Committee comprising Kingswell, H A Marriner and Dr Gordon to meet the chairman of the One Tree Hill Domain Board. The Domain Board met the next day, and one of the items on its agenda was a letter from Kingswell offering as a donation the sum of £40 a year conditionally on the Board granting a new Golf Club in the course of formation the right to play in the Domain over a nine hole course, also to have the right to cut grass and keep greens in order and permission to build a small pavilion. The Board agreed that Kingswell's offer be accepted for the first year, conditionally on the rent being £50 for the next two years. It was at this stage that the Domain Board reduced the area of the Domain that would be available for golf by reserving an area of some 15 acres adjacent to Manukau Road for other activities. This effectively made three of the twelve holes on the Domain unavailable to the new Club.

The General Meeting was held in the Chamber of Commerce on the evening of Tuesday 5 October 1909. It was chaired by Kingswell with 22 others attending. The report of that meeting in the following morning's NZ Herald reads as follows;

#### "FORMATION OF MAUNGAKIEKIE CLUB

A well attended meeting of golfers, ladies and gentlemen, was held at the Chamber of Commerce last evening, Mr P.N. Kingswell presiding over a gathering of more than 30 persons.

It was decided to form a Club to play at One Tree Hill links over a nine hole course, to be called the Maungakiekie Golf Club. Over 60 names were handed in for membership.

The following officers were elected;

President	Sir John Logan Campbell
Vice Presidents	Messrs James Kirker, W.R. Bloomfield, P.N Kingswell and Dr Gordon
Captain	Mr P.T. Upton
Hon Secretary	Mr J.C. Burns
Hon Treasurer	Mr H.A. Marriner
Committee (Ladies)	Mesdames W.R. Bloomfield, A.N. Fergusson, G.M. Newton, T.D. Ball
Committee (Gentlemen)	Messrs H.P. Kissling, H.C. Tonks, L.W. Alexander, R Lambert, and Dr Dudley.

The subscription was fixed at £3.3.0 per annum for gentlemen non-members of the Auckland Golf Club, and £1.10.0 for gentlemen members, and for ladies £1.10.0 and 15 shillings respectively.

It was resolved that no gentlemen members of the Auckland Golf Club be allowed to start before 2.30pm on Saturday.

The Committee are taking the links in hand at once, and are making arrangements for the refencing of the green, and temporary accommodation for the members.”

A separate report in the same newspaper indicated that as H G Hood, the Auckland Golf Club professional was engaged with the new Middlemore course, J McCormick would be teaching the lady players at One Tree Hill. By May 1910 it became clear that McCormick was working for Hood as the latter formally offered McCormick's services to the new Club on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at a retaining fee of 10 shillings a week.

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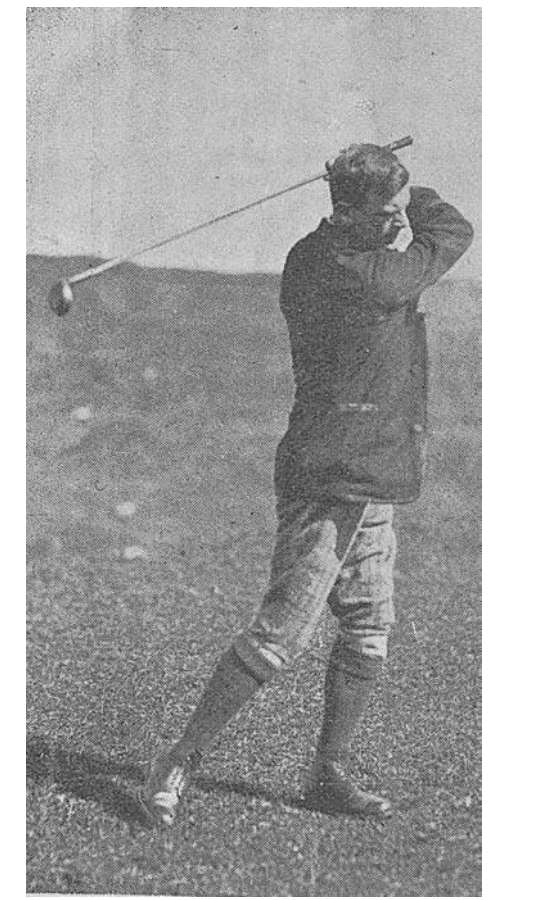
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P T Kingswell, the "Father of Maungakiekie"



Mr P T Upton, Maungakiekie's first Captain

Advertisements in NZ Herald 6 October 1909 in respect  
of former Clubrooms and Golf Course.

## The First Season...

**T**he minutes of the General Meeting show that it was attended by 23 (not 30) persons and that there was an unsuccessful attempt made to name the new Club Campbell instead of Maungakiekie. 61 persons comprising 54 gentlemen and 7 ladies had confirmed their intention of becoming playing members of the new Club. The minutes also show that many of the newly elected officers were not present at the meeting, including the Captain, Parker T Upton and the Honorary Secretary, John C Burns. Those two gentlemen had recently fought out the final of the 1909 Auckland Golf Club Championship, with Burns emerging as the winner. The four ladies who attended the meeting were all elected to the Committee, and Kingswell was elected as one of the four Vice Presidents.

Although Sir John Logan Campbell was elected as President of the new Club (he was also President of the Auckland Golf Club) the role of President appears to have been equivalent to that of a Patron, and he took no part in the administration of either Club.

Immediately following the General Meeting those of the newly elected Committee who were in attendance (except for the four lady members) met under Kingswell's chairmanship to discuss administrative matters and to frame an advertisement calling for tenders for "...the mowing, rolling and general upkeep of 9 greens..." The advertisement appeared in the tenders column of the NZ Herald the following morning and it may or may not have been a coincidence that in the same column Kingswell's architect was advertising for builders to convert the Auckland Golf Club's former Clubhouse into a private residence.

One of the first actions of the newly elected Committee was to extend an invitation to the Auckland Golf Club members to play on the nine


hole One-tree Hill course on the following Saturday, as the first nine holes of the new course at Otahuhu were not yet in playable order. The Auckland members were "asked to accept the links as they find them, the want of use having caused the course to become rough in places." On the following Wednesday Maungakiekie members were able to play on the course, Kingswell having consented to let the new Club have the use of the old Club house.


The first few meetings of the new Committee were focussed on administrative matters and an inflow of applications from prospective new members. G Dunstan's tender of £1 per week was accepted for the upkeep of the greens, with all orders regarding his work to be given by the Captain and the Honorary Secretary only. The lease that Kingswell had obtained from the Domain Board was transferred from him to the Club, and the purchase of necessary plant was delegated to a sub-Committee. A sub-Committee was also formed to approach the Domain Board to discuss the question of a site for a Club house. No action was taken at that time to lease the Cornwall Park Trust Board land that had earlier accommodated six of the Auckland Golf Club's holes.

A new membership category known as "Foundation Member" was adopted by the Committee a week after the General Meeting. This category of membership was to be applied to the initial inflow of members who were not required to pay an entrance fee. Three weeks later the Committee adopted another membership category known as "Boy Member" and in January 1910 E H Goodfellow appears to have become the first member in that category.

Dunstan received his first payment of £17 following the March 1910 Committee meeting which also accepted Mr Alexander's resignation from the Committee and elected Mr D MacCormick to replace him. At the same meeting Kingswell

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proposed that the membership be limited to 150 members after which an entrance fee would be charged. A General Meeting chaired by Kingswell was held on 22 March 1910 to discuss this issue along with the adoption of the Club's first Rules. At that meeting it was decided to limit the number of Foundation Members to 160 after which an entrance fee of £1.1.0 be applied to all new members up to a membership which would be limited to 200.

In the early months of 1910 the main focus of the Club was directed towards the erection of its new Club house, to be partly paid for by debentures, and the preparation of a formal golf programme for its first competitive season. In the words of the NZ Herald reporter the new Club house "is on the course well up the hill, and is being built in pretty bungalow style."

In April 1910 the Board drafted a lease of the Domain for golf purposes to the Maungakiekie Golf Club on the following conditions:

- 1 The Maungakiekie Golf Club to have the right to play golf on the One Tree Hill Domain over not less than nine holes for five years from 1<sup>st</sup> November 1910 at a rental of £50 payable quarterly in advance.
- 2 Permission be granted them to erect a pavilion at a cost not exceeding £200 and not less than £150 on a site to be agreed upon, for which the Club will pay a rental of £5 per annum.
- 3 If for any reason at the end of the 5 years or before from 1<sup>st</sup> November 1910 the Board cannot renew the right to play golf, the Board will then have the right to either take over the pavilion at valuation or direct the Golf Club to remove it, such valuation shall in no case exceed the sum of £200. It is understood by the Board that the pavilion is private to members of the Golf Club.

The new Clubhouse was formally opened on Saturday 21 May 1910 by Mr L J Bagnall, Mayor of Auckland, the occasion being delightfully described in the NZ Herald as follows;

"There was a gathering of between 300 and 400 guests at the Clubhouse, which is picturesquely situated on the western slopes of One-tree Hill, and contains convenient appointments for the accommodation of members and visitors. The grounds are excellent for golfing, and the view is unsurpassed.

The Mayor, who was received by the President of the Club (Mr H A Marriner) said that in the unavoidable absence of Sir John Logan Campbell, patron of the Club, it afforded him great pleasure to perform the opening ceremony. He congratulated the Club on being able to play on One-tree Hill, which was historical so far as New Zealand golf was concerned. He remarked that golfers were indebted to the One-tree Hill Domain Board for the privilege of revelling in their healthy pastime amidst such pleasant surroundings. The speaker commended the choice of the native name Maungakiekie, remarking that the name of the hill would have been inappropriate for the Club. He wished the Club every success. (Applause).

Afternoon tea was dispensed. (In those days afternoon tea was a very important part of every event).

Mixed foursomes were played during the afternoon over a 10 hole course, with the result that Miss Pierce and Hay won with the score of 47 net. Mrs Ferguson and Cooke tied, but unfortunately some other player had played with one of their balls, and they were disqualified."

Apart from the fact that H A Marriner was wrongly reported as being the President of the Club (he was actually the Honorary Treasurer) it was surprising to find that Kingswell was not present at this special occasion. The reason for his absence was that Kingswell, along with most of Maungakiekie's executive were playing first and second round matches for the Captain's Prize at the Auckland Golf Club's new Middlemore course. Kingswell did however donate the prizes for the mixed foursomes competition.

In the report of the Club house opening reference is made to the course having 10 holes instead of the 9 holes that had been envisaged when the new Club was formed. The additional hole was named "Pyramid" and was the ninth hole of the 10 hole course. It was played following the Ampitheatre, which was the eighth hole at that time.

The first Club competition was played on the new 10 hole course on the Saturday following the opening of the Clubhouse. It was a ladies medal event, won by Miss E Cumming with a gross score of 67 and a net score of 47. Another delightful piece of reporting in the following Monday's NZ Herald illustrates some of the difficulties facing those early golfers;

"Several players did not return cards, the reason in many cases being owing to the strong westerly wind making Jacob's Ladder very difficult to negotiate. For a lady player of ordinary capability the men's tee at this hole is too low. The opinion was strongly

expressed that the Committee should make a tee higher up for the ladies. One could not help admiring the persistency of the players who eventually holed out at Jacob's Ladder in twenties, one lady actually taking 25 strokes."

The wish of the ladies for a new tee was subsequently approved with the result that the length of the hole was reduced to 66 yards, surely one of the shortest holes in golf.

The rest of the 1910 golf season was played according to the programme which was based on Saturday competitions over the 10 hole course. Most events were for lady members only, but some were matched by identical competitions for men.

In August 1910 the Maungakiekie Club played its first inter-Club match against a team from the Waitemata Club. This was an interesting version of a "home and away" fixture, with six gentlemen representing Maungakiekie catching the 1pm ferry across the harbour to Devonport and playing their matches at the Waitemata course, and four gentlemen representing Waitemata travelling in the reverse direction and playing their matches at the One Tree Hill course. Although the matches were reported as being over full 18 hole courses it is clear that the matches at Maungakiekie used a nine hole course, played twice. For the record, the Waitemata team were comprehensive winners, with the score being 7-3 in their favour, Waitemata winning 4-0 at One Tree Hill and achieving a 3-3 draw at Waitemata.

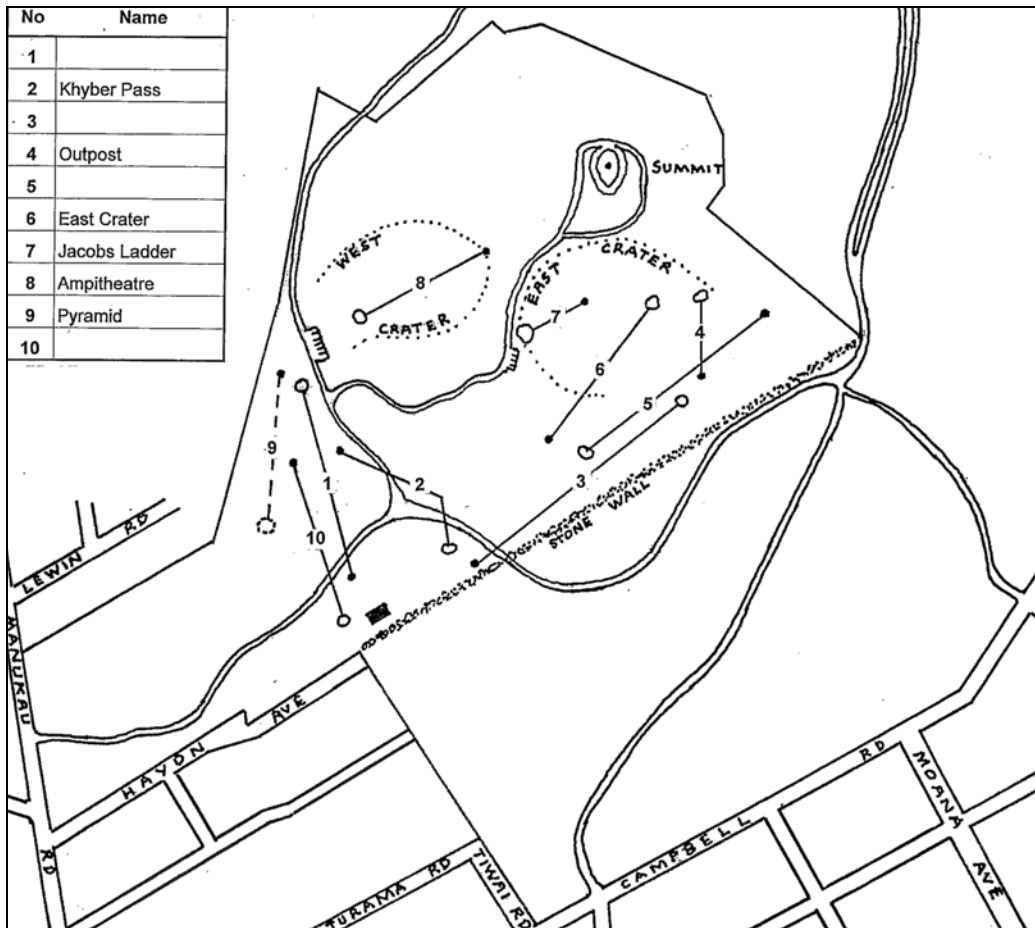
Two weeks later the match was continued at both courses with mixed and men's foursomes matches being played. Two mixed foursomes combinations and three men's foursomes combinations from Maungakiekie travelled to Devonport, with three mixed foursomes combinations and three men's foursomes combinations from Waitemata travelling to One Tree Hill. This time the results favoured Maungakiekie 8-3, winning 6-0 at One Tree Hill and losing 3-2 at Waitemata.

Maungakiekie's first trophy appears to be the Captain's Prize, which was played over "three rounds of 10 holes each, medal play, players to choose their own partners, entries on ground." This event had separate divisions for gentlemen and ladies, with J P Ridings winning the men's division and Miss G Gorrie winning the ladies division ahead of Miss E Martin.

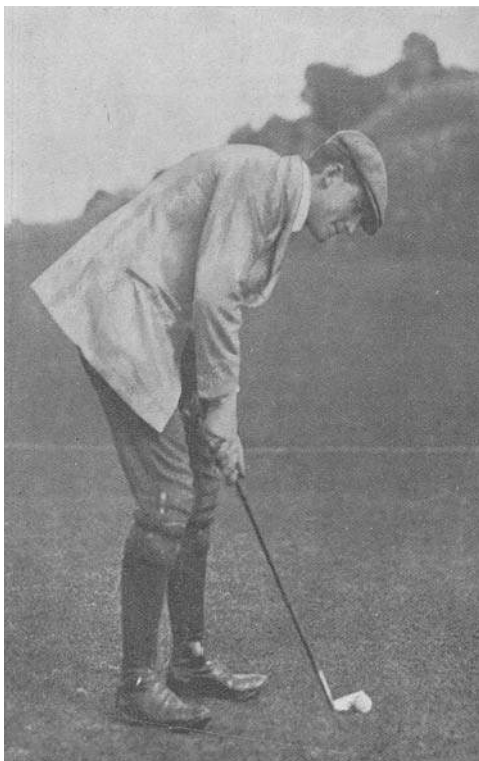
Misses Gorrie and Martin appear to have been dominant figures in Auckland ladies golf at that time. Six days after the Captain's Prize event they fought out the final of the Auckland Ladies Championship, played at the new Middlemore course, the victory going to Miss Martin. The following day the same two ladies tied for first place in the Maungakiekie Club's bogey match with scores of 5 down. There was also a tie in the men's bogey event, with A G Cooke and G George both recording scores of 4 down. As there was no countback system in those days the ties were played off during the following week, with Miss Martin and A G Cooke being the winners.

At the end of its first season the Committee announced that for the benefit of members it had decided to keep the links open for play during the summer months. This would have been an enormous challenge for Dunstan as there was no piped water to the greens. The Waitemata Golf Club also attempted to keep its course open during that summer, and its lack of success is well described in this NZ Herald report.

"The Committee of the Club reported that at the end of last season it was decided to keep the links open for play during the summer months. Owing to insufficient support this did not prove to be a success. The grass was kept down during the months of October and November, but as only six members had played it was decided that the work be stopped, and on December 8 the workmen were taken off. The professional then undertook to keep four greens going until the end of the summer. This was found to be beyond him owing to the drought and abnormal growth of grass this summer."



The Club's first course 1909-1911



Mr J C Burns, Maungakiekie's first Honorary Secretary



Mr R O Gardner, Maungakiekie's first Men's Champion

# The Early Years...

If Kingswell is regarded as the "Father of Maungakiekie" then mention must also be made of the key administrators who assisted him in guiding the new Club through its early development and growth. H.A. (Herbert) Marriner was a well respected Manager in the New Zealand Insurance Company and was the Club's Honorary Treasurer during the 17 month term of the first executive. During that time Marriner attended every Committee meeting, chairing many of them when either Kingswell or the Club Captain were unavailable. Marriner had also chaired the initial Preliminary meeting of golfers in September 1909.

At the March 1911 Annual General Meeting Marriner was elected to the positions of Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer and received a hearty vote of thanks for his great work during the year. At that meeting Kingswell informed members that the Club would soon be in a position to run a full 18 hole course. Kingswell also raised the issue of maintaining the reserving of Saturday afternoons for ladies golf, but no change to the existing arrangement was made.

It appears that Marriner may have resigned from the position of Honorary Secretary in August 1911, following a Committee resolution censuring him in respect of issues with the minute book. Dr Dudley subsequently agreed to take over that position until the next Annual Meeting.

By August 1911 the combination of a full membership and a small course was creating obvious problems, as evidenced by the following report in the NZ Herald on Saturday 5 August 1911;

"The games at One Tree Hill are now in first class order, though the green might be improved. The links being very sporting, good lies are necessary for successful negotiation of the many hazards, so the officials should try to make some improvement.

The Club having obtained its full membership, the links are often somewhat crowded. If arrangements could be made for the full 18 holes it would relieve the congestion. Ten holes, and the majority of them short ones, is hardly up to the standard of a 200 member Club."

That report marked the start of a significant change in the Club's approach to the game, resulting in a Special General Meeting being held in September 1911 to "consider the advisability of acquiring the lease of the Tramway paddocks for the purpose of increasing the links to an 18-hole course..." In terms of location the Tramway paddocks were that part of Cornwall Park which fronted Campbell Road roughly between Rawhiti Road and Mariri Road. They extended back to the stone wall that still separates Cornwall Park from the One Tree Hill Domain.

At the same meeting Marriner tendered his verbal resignation from the position of Honorary Treasurer. The meeting resolved "that a vote of thanks in appreciation of his past services as Hon Treasurer be accorded to Mr Marriner." 1911 was obviously not a good year for Marriner but he should be well remembered for the key roles he played in the establishment of the new Club.

J C (John) Burns was a merchant who was another key administrator in the early years, holding the position of Honorary Secretary until the November 1911 Annual General Meeting when he was elected as one of four Vice Presidents of the Club. Burns was able to mix high quality golf with his administrative skills, winning the Auckland Golf Club senior championship in 1905 and 1909-1913 and the Captain's Prize in 1906 and 1909-1912, being that Club's Captain in 1914 and 1915 and being a Vice President of the new Maungakiekie Club from 1911 until his untimely death in 1918.

Mrs A M (Agnes) Ferguson also stood out as a

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**Taiwanese Members**

Committee member who rarely missed a meeting and who contributed much to the early years of the new Club. She chaired a number of General Committee meetings early in 1911, retiring from that Committee at the November 1911 Annual General Meeting. She subsequently became a member of the Club's first Ladies Committee in 1912.

The November 1911 Annual General Meeting was notable for the fact that members were informed that the Committee had secured an annual lease of the 37½ acre Tramway paddock from the Cornwall Park Trust Board, the lease becoming effective from 1 January 1912. This was made possible because a large increase in membership provided sufficient funds to meet the increased maintenance costs associated with the formation and upkeep of the additional holes. In the Annual Report Kingswell again raised the issue of the playing priority given to the ladies on Saturday afternoons, and suggested that a separate ladies Committee be formed to manage their own handicapping and matches.

As far as golf was concerned the 1911 season followed a similar programme to that of the previous season, with the exception that a number of events were played over 18 holes (two rounds of the 9 hole course presumably excluding the Pyramid hole). The programme again included a home and away match against Waitemata although this year the first of the matches were all played at One Tree Hill followed later by the return matches at Waitemata. A decision was made early in 1911 that Club championships would be held for both men and ladies, and these were duly won by R O (Tonks) Gardner and Miss Frater.

From an administrative viewpoint the early part of 1912 is significant. The Club's first Ladies Executive and Committee appear to have been elected in mid March, with Mrs E D (Eleanor) Ball becoming the Captain and Mrs J P (Jessie) Ridings becoming the Secretary. In early April the General Committee resolved that the Club join the New Zealand Ladies Golf Union, which had been established in 1910.

Whereas sheep were used to control growth on the One Tree Hill Domain fairways the Committee decided that cattle would be more appropriate to control the more rapid growth on the Cornwall Park fairways. This proved to be a mistake which was only partially resolved by fencing off a portion of the newly leased area so that the cattle could be confined during the day and let out to graze on the course during the night. By the end of the year the Committee was negotiating to replace the cattle with sheep.

With 18 holes in operation the Club found itself attracting many new members, to the extent that additions to the Clubhouse became necessary. A report in the NZ Herald indicates that a General Meeting of members was held near the end of June, although the Club minute book does not refer to such a meeting. The Herald report stated that the meeting "decided to alter the Rules and increase the entrance fee from £1.1.0 to £2.2.0 and £3.3.0 for ladies and men respectively." It also stated that the meeting decided to recommend to the Committee that membership be limited to 150 ladies and 125 men.

The 1912 season was formally opened on Saturday 13 April on the full 18 hole course which was reported to be in excellent order and which "yielded splendid sport." Although not recorded in the Club minutes, analysis of the year's results as reported in the NZ Herald shows that the Ladies Committee had moved to make Wednesday their main competition day with the male golfers taking over Saturday as their main competition day. The General Committee minutes for May 1912 do however include the very respectful resolution "That a suggestion be made to the Ladies Committee that they arrange that ladies do not start on Saturdays till 2.30 pm and that they allow men to go through and further that they do not cut in on those playing the full course." Less than three years earlier it was the men members of the Auckland Golf Club who were subjected to similar playing restrictions.

Men's handicaps were determined on the basis of scores recorded in three grading rounds of medal play played in the first three weeks of the season. Failure to play in the grading rounds would debar members from competing in future contests until their form had been ascertained.

The death of Sir John Logan Campbell on the morning of Saturday 22 June 1912 was deeply felt by the membership of both the Auckland Golf Club and the Maungakiekie Golf Club. Sir John was the president of both Clubs and as a mark of respect each Club postponed the fixtures that had been arranged for that day.

Mr A B Webster and Miss Gordon were the winners of the 1912 mens and ladies championships, with Mr R M (Rex) George winning the initial men's junior championship.

From an administrative viewpoint 1913 was a relatively quiet year. The Committee decided that a list of all members of the Club be placed in the Clubhouse and the names ticked off as the subscriptions were paid. Dunstan lost his pay cheque and a replacement was agreed to subject



to him signing a letter of indemnity. Extensions to the Clubhouse were also approved.

Percy Kingswell donated a trophy to be played for annually, best two bogey (par) scores out of three rounds. This trophy is known as the Kingswell Shield and is still played for by members of the Maungakiekie Club. The Committee fixed the price of Dunlop balls to be sold by the professional at 21 shillings per dozen or 2 shillings each. In August, Tribble (the professional) resigned and later in the year the Club appointed Blair from Invercargill to be the new professional.

The 1913 golfing season was also uneventful with a programme similar to that of the previous year. Rex George became the first winner of the Kingswell Shield and the home and away match with Waitemata was played in May and August, Maungakiekie winning the May event 12 matches to 9 and the August event 13 matches to 11. In the Captain's Prize qualifying round three players tied for 8<sup>th</sup> place and a playoff was held during the week to find the final qualifier.

The Committee asked members not to play three and four ball matches on Saturday afternoons as they caused congestion on the course. To appreciate this ruling it was the practice in those days for the field to play as two balls at four minute intervals and it is not surprising that three and four ball matches would slow play down considerably.

Closing Day was held in October with mixed foursomes being played over a 16 hole course. The social event that followed was notable for the fact that the Club named the first hole "The Kingswell" in recognition of the keen interest that Percy Kingswell had shown in Club affairs. At this stage the first tee was in the vicinity of Sorrento and the green had Kingswell's house (the former Auckland Golf Club Clubrooms) as a backdrop.

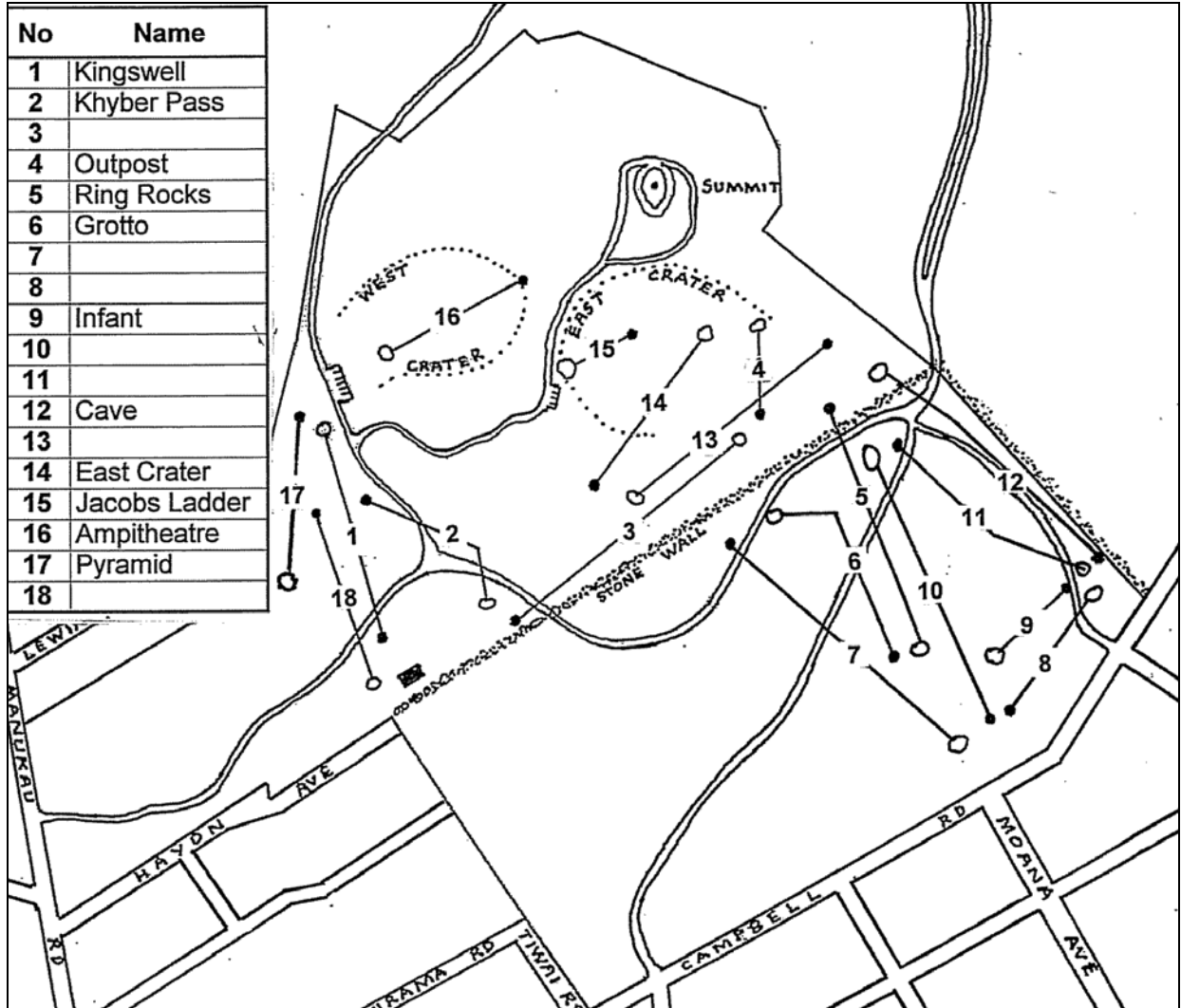
The NZ Herald often contained interesting golfing articles written by overseas authors. This 1913 excerpt provides a good example of the strict rules that applied at that time and a rather strange view as to how the number of Clubs carried relates to the competency of the golfer.

"The question of how many Clubs make up a set is a debatable one, and I have seen many a look of surprise when relating how many I personally carry. It always seems to me that to carry only four or five Clubs is a sure sign of incompetency, for the correct shots are never played owing to lack of proper instruments. One only has to go to any of the principal tournaments of the year and inspect the set carried by the winner to prove the truth of this. It will be found in nine cases out of ten that the victor carries in his bag as many as 12 Clubs, and has a definite and distinct use for each.

I daresay there are those who will promptly point to some local prodigy who does his rounds – and fairly good rounds too – using only a cleek and a mashie. This however proves nothing, for there is no saying what the player might do if provided with a full set of Clubs. I recently came across an example of this kind of player, who had even gone so far as to win the local medal competition with his cleek and mashie. Great was his disappointment on being disqualified for breach of rules for using neither bag nor caddie! Since then that player has invested in a driver, and his game is already improving. Presently, no doubt, other Clubs will appear, and his handicap of nine will be still further reduced."

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**Bud McPhatter, Life Member**



The Club's Course 1912-1925

## The 1914-18 War Years...

**T**he year 1914 was notable for a variety of reasons. It marked the start of the 1914-1918 Great War during which eight members of the Club lost their lives. It also marked the appointment in February 1914 of a sub-Committee comprising Messrs A G Cooke, G C W Morris and Hickson "to consider the question of acquiring a section of land for the purpose of forming additional golf links." By March 1914 the sub-Committee had identified an area of land at New Lynn which was owned by the Gardner brothers (Sonny and Tonks, who were prominent members of the Club), and Parker.

Blair, who had commenced his duties on 1<sup>st</sup> January was asked to ascertain exactly what area would be required for a course. At the Annual General Meeting in March an expanded version of the sub-Committee was given seven weeks to look fully into the cost and facilities of the New Lynn Links and report back to the members. The sub-Committee's report was favourable and included the fact that Blair and F J Hood, the Auckland Golf Club's professional, had been over the ground several times and had laid out a course of about 6,000 yards in length. This layout was considered by a Special General Meeting in May, attended by 52 members with a further 32 members being represented by proxy votes. At that meeting it was decided that the carrying on of two courses by the Club was feasible, that the Club should purchase the land in question, that the price and terms were reasonable, and that an additional subscription be charged for the privilege of playing on both courses.

Among the technical matters in the sub-Committee's report there were a number of observations relating to the Club's tenure of the One Tree Hill course. Like the earlier Auckland Golf Club tenure of the One Tree Hill Domain, tensions were developing between the needs of the Club's members and the expectations of the increasing usage of the Domain

by the general public. The sub-Committee report stated "...the risk of accident is the danger of our lease of this portion of our course being terminated. A serious accident will probably occur unless members are more careful. When it does there will be an outcry, and golf perhaps stopped."

The report also referred to the future use of the section of the course located on Cornwall Park, stating "...We have a yearly tenancy of the Tramway Paddocks, but only the need of more revenue will induce the trustees to interfere with us here. There is some uncertainty as to how long the Club can use the present holes, although a course will probably always be available." Clearly the authors of the report considered that there was uncertainty as to the Club's future at One Tree Hill as the report also stated; "Should circumstances arise to force us to leave Maungakiekie, and we have nowhere to go, it would certainly cost a great deal more, while many may be compelled to stop playing."

The Special General Meeting was accurately recorded by the NZ Herald with their report including the following footnote;

"Of course suitable grasses will have to be laid down, but it is anticipated that the new course will be even better than the splendid one at One Tree Hill. The chief trouble with the latter is the great amount of rolling it needs, owing to the presence of innumerable worms. This defect is entirely absent in the new ground, and everything at present points to the fact that when complete the New Lynn links will rank with the very best in the Dominion."

By the end of 1914 much progress had been made, including a survey by Captain Chambers, discussions with the Gardners regarding the laying out of the course, and a recommendation by the Club's solicitor that the purchase of the property should be accompanied by Incorporation of the Club under the Incorporated Societies Act.

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Acquisition of the New Lynn property tended to dominate the Committee's efforts during the first year of the war, but they also purchased a horse mower for One Tree Hill, and created two classes for caddies. First class caddies were to be paid one shilling and three pence per round with second class caddies receiving one shilling per round.

Members attending the November Annual General Meeting agreed with the Committee's recommendation that Mrs Jessie Ridings be made a life member of the Club in "consideration of the work she has done for the Club in the position of Lady Honorary Secretary." Mrs Ridings joined the Club as a foundation member in March 1910 and was elected as a new member in May 1910. She was married to J P Ridings who was the Collector of Customs in Auckland for many years and who served as Maungakiekie's Club Captain in the 1912 and 1913 seasons. It would appear that Mrs Ridings may have been the driving force behind the establishment of the Ladies Committee early in 1912 and the subsequent action of Maungakiekie joining the New Zealand Ladies Golf Union, which had been established in 1910. Why the Titirangi and Mangakiekie Clubs Honours Boards have not recognised Mrs Ridings as the new Club's first Life Member remains a mystery and as part of the 2009 Centenary celebrations it is planned to formally recognise her achievement.

At the same meeting members were also asked to submit suggestions for the name of the New Lynn course. Early in the following year the Committee decided that it be called Titirangi.

A full golfing programme was undertaken in 1914 and despite men being required for active service membership grew from 344 at the beginning of the year to 377 by the end of the year. The men played two home and away matches with Waitemata, winning both of them. The Ladies also played Waitemata at One Tree Hill and had a convincing victory.

Playoffs were still used to determine tied events and in 1914 there were some good examples of this practise. In the men's qualifying round for the Captain's prize four players tied for the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> places in the field. They played off the following Saturday with the best two scores advancing to the matchplay round. Two players tied for the Kingswell Shield and their playoff was held 3 months later. The ultimate playoff was played by two ladies in the nationwide Coronation Medal competition which is one of a number of "Home Link" competitions that are competed for at a player's home Club. The Coronation Medal was presented to New Zealand by the Ladies Golf

Union in 1907 to mark the coronation of King Edward VII. In the 1914 competition Miss Bayley from Maungakiekie tied with Miss Petrie of Greymouth, both having a net score of one under par. The playoff was held two weeks later at the players' respective courses, with Miss Petrie being the victor. It is understood that this form of playoff is still used to decide ties in the Home Link competitions.

1915 started off with the Club being incorporated under the Incorporated Societies Act on 10<sup>th</sup> March. A full golfing programme was planned for the season but within a few months the Committee resolved to forgo the annual match with Waitemata, to donate all match fees to the Belgium Fund (this was later rescinded with all match fees being donated to the Wounded Soldiers Fund), to not publish results of Club events, and to abandon the Club championships. The Committee also purchased a ball marking machine which stamped members' initials on their golf balls. Caddies finding marked balls were required to hand them to the professional who would pay the caddie two pence for each ball. The owner of the ball would pay the professional three pence for each ball.

In June a circular was received to the effect that James Watt, professional to the Wellington Golf Club, and E S Douglas, professional to the Miramar Golf Club, were desirous of promoting a competition among all golfers in New Zealand for the purpose of raising money to augment the Wounded Soldiers Fund, and had donated two complete kits of Clubs to be competed for. The competition was open to Men and Ladies with an entrance fee of one shilling per player, all receipts to be donated to the Fund. 44 Maungakiekie lady members participated in this event along with an unknown number of men members, but heavy conditions meant that their scores were too high to win the golf Clubs.

Difficulties in finalising the agreement between the Club and the Gardners in respect of the development of Titirangi emerged in the first half of 1915. To address these the Club turned to its President, Percy Kingswell, who had not, apart from chairing Annual and Special General Meetings, played an active part in administration of the Club since late 1911. Kingswell chaired a special Committee meeting in July 1915 which resolved that two sub-Committees be formed, both to be convened by Kingswell. The first sub-Committee was to produce a report on the next three years financial obligations to the Club in developing Titirangi while the second sub-Committee was to meet the Gardners in an attempt to agree acceptable financial

arrangements. Two weeks later reports were placed before a further special Committee meeting chaired by Kingswell which resolved that a special general meeting of members be called to consider them.

Kingswell also chaired the Committee meeting a week later when it was resolved that the Gardner Brothers and Parker be informed "that after mature consideration the Committee is reluctantly compelled owing to the present position of the financial market to come to the conclusion that the Club cannot with fairness to the vendors or its members enter into any final or binding agreement for the immediate purchase of their property." The Committee also resolved that Kingswell convey that information to the vendors and that he be empowered to negotiate with them for an option on the best terms available.

Kingswell reported back to a special Committee meeting which he chaired later in August 1915. It was clear that he and the vendors had come to a satisfactory understanding and on that basis the meeting resolved to take the matter before the special General Meeting to be held two weeks later. That meeting endorsed the arrangements that Kingswell had made with the vendors, which meant that the development of Titirangi was once again able to proceed as planned. At the following Committee Meeting it was resolved that "This Committee, recognising as it does, the valuable services of Mr Kingswell, the Club's President, in connection with the adjustment of the terms of the agreement as to the Titirangi Links, desires to place on record its sincere thanks to him, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to him."

An interesting aspect of the Special General Meeting which approved Kingswell's recommendations was that a motion regarding the One Tree Hill course was put but was lost. That motion read "That for the purposes of assuring the proper upkeep of the One Tree Hill links this meeting only consents to the acquisition of New Lynn Links provided they are made self supporting in the future, viz after the £400 deposit is paid and all the present committed expenditure of not exceeding £100 is paid, further that the subscriptions paid to the Maungakiekie Club be kept in a separate account." Fourteen years later the issue of expenditure on the two courses formed the basis for the division of Maungakiekie into two Clubs, Titirangi and a new version of the

Maungakiekie Club. Although Kingswell was duly re-elected as President for the 1916 and 1917 seasons the records show that he took no further part in the practical administration of the Club over that period. In view of the contributions he had made to the Club's establishment and in the way that the Club relied on him to negotiate complex agreements, it is surprising that no formal recognition of his service was made when he stepped down from the President's role at the 1917 Annual General Meeting. He subsequently purchased a life membership in 1921, using credit he held under the old debenture scheme as part payment of the required fee. His achievements as a former President of the Club were only noted by the Committee after he passed away in September 1928.

At the end of 1915 the Club applied for and was granted a five year lease of the land it occupied on the One Tree Hill Domain. The Cornwall Park section of the course was still on a one year tenancy.

The 1916 golfing season can be summed up by the following report which appeared in the New Zealand Herald on Saturday 15 April;

"The Maungakiekie Golf Club's full winter course of 18 holes will be available for play today, when mixed foursomes will be held.

In view of the fact that the present state of public affairs may exist for some time to come, the Programme Committee has, this year, found it hard to decide what to suggest as to the list of matches to be played. The Club was one of the first to see in the early stages of the war the need for a distinct policy as to sports so as to avoid, on the one hand, the chance of hurting the feelings of those whose men folk were at the front, and the giving of the attraction of pastimes to men of military age and fitness, and on the other hand the increase of the strain of finance. Since that day the position has become more acute. The need for men seems more insistent, and at the same time Clubs of all kinds have been faced with a more serious aspect of their finance. After taking the foregoing conditions into consideration and also the fact that the Club must keep going, the Committee has decided that only minor events be included in the forthcoming season's programme. The Club has over 40 members at the front, including two lady members."

As far as men's golf was concerned the decision had already been made late in 1915 to forgo the



playing of the championships for the duration of the war. The ladies however continued with a full programme which included their championships and a series of Red Cross fundraising events. These events were held by the Ladies golf Clubs throughout New Zealand and over four years £1,100 was raised for the Red Cross. This was a tremendous effort by the lady golfers, who have always been great fundraisers.

Private James B Cairnie and Private Moore Morpeth were reported as the Club's first two fatalities in the war, both being killed during 1915. Another member, Second Lieutenant John W Gorrie, lost his life in the following year.

From an administration viewpoint 1916 was relatively quiet with the Gardner brothers and Parker continuing development of the Titirangi course under the terms of the option to purchase that property. A further 5 year lease was negotiated with the One Tree Hill Domain Board for the holes that were located on the One Tree Hill Domain, and a further one year lease was secured for the holes located in the Tramway Paddock in Cornwall Park. From a golfing viewpoint the ladies continued to run a reasonably full programme which included their championships and their fundraising events.

Two more members, Captain W E Moore and Second Lieutenant E A Craig lost their lives on active service in 1917.

1917 saw more discussions on the option to purchase the Titirangi Course. Advice was received that the Club's option did not expire until six months after declaration of peace, or if peace does not come by 5<sup>th</sup> November 1917, six months from that date. The 1917 Annual Report referred to the fact that a Special General Meeting would be called in 1918 to consider a fresh option and informed members that "Your Committee is strongly of the opinion that the opportunity of acquiring this most suitable course should on no account be lost, and it is hoped that every member will look ahead and take into consideration the growth of the City and the nature of the tenure on which the One Tree Hill course is held." This was a good example of the foresight that the Club's early administrators had consistently shown, and also reinforced the concerns that had been previously expressed regarding the uncertain nature of the Club's occupancy of the two areas of land that it occupied at One Tree Hill and Cornwall Park.

The Special General Meeting to consider the future of Titirangi was held in May 1918, and it was at that meeting that the Club committed to extend

its option to purchase to a period ending one year after the declaration of peace. The purchase price was fixed at £6,500 with the Club to pay £50 per annum for upkeep of the course and to commit to the building of a pavilion within one year of the actual purchase of the property.

Although a restricted golf programme was still in force throughout 1918, in July the Committee uplifted the earlier restriction they had imposed regarding the publishing of Saturday's matches.

The war ended on the 11<sup>th</sup> November 1918. Sadly three more Club members, Sergeant Major J C Burns (one of the Club's Vice Presidents), Second Lieutenant H W Cox, and Private B R George had lost their lives in its last year. Of the 72 Club Members who took part in the war, eight did not return.

The 1918 Annual General Meeting was to have been held on 28<sup>th</sup> November but was delayed until 12<sup>th</sup> December, presumably as the result of the influenza epidemic which had hit Auckland in particular and which had caused the health authorities to ban victory celebrations and other public gatherings in central Auckland. Membership of the Club had held up well during the war, comprising 341 members at the end of 1918, compared with 344 in 1914.

Mr G Lawrence Taylor, who had been Club Captain in 1917 and 1918 was elected as the Club's President at the 1918 Annual Meeting, a position he held with distinction until March 1929. At the first meeting of the new Committee in December 1918 Taylor expressed the wish that the Club should have a suitable Roll of Honour and that he would be prepared to meet its cost. In accepting Taylor's offer the Committee specified that the Roll of Honour should be constructed of oak. It was formally presented to the Club on its 1919 Opening Day and is now mounted in a prominent position in the lounge of the present Maungakiekie Golf Club.

1919 will be remembered as the year that the Club finally exercised its option to purchase Titirangi from the Gardner Bros and Parker. A General Meeting of members was held on 12 August and the proposal to purchase Titirangi was carried unanimously. This effectively meant that the members had elected to run two golf courses 12km apart. The notice of that meeting referred to the levels of congestion already being experienced at One Tree Hill, and that if Titirangi was not available for the next season the membership list may need to be closed. Reference was also made to the "desire for the opportunity to play by the rising generation of both boys and girls." One only

has to look at the success of Maungakiekie's junior golf programme over many years to appreciate the wisdom of that statement.

An interesting aspect of that meeting was that an amendment to the motion to exercise the Club's option to purchase the Titirangi land was proposed and seconded. The amendment was to the effect that "the Maungakiekie Club offers to a new Club the option which it now holds for the proposed links, the new Club to issue debentures covering the amount of expenditure that has already been made on the new Club." However Mr C F (Sonny) Gardner informed the meeting that the option that the Maungakiekie Club held was not a transferable asset, and the amendment was duly withdrawn. This does raise the interesting question that if Gardner had agreed that the option was transferable, and if the meeting had voted in favour of the amendment, the separation of the two Clubs could have effectively taken place in 1919 and not 11 years later in 1930.

£50 Life Memberships and debentures were subsequently raised to cover the cost of financing completion of the course. By the Annual General Meeting in November eight Life Memberships had been taken up along with 41 debentures amounting to £1540.

The ending of the war enabled the full golf programme to be resumed for the 1919 season. Rex George won the first of his eight Senior championships, defeating A Fairburn 15 and 14 in the 36 hole final. A Le Sieur won the Junior Championship while Miss I B Burgess won the Ladies championship.

A new three day open handicap match play event for men (which became an annual event) was added to the 1919 programme with the principal trophy being the Maungakiekie Cup. It was held at the One Tree Hill course with the first winner of the Cup being C F Gardner, who defeated F Trice in the final on Saturday 23 August. This tournament was again played at One Tree Hill in 1920 and in 1921 was transferred to the new Titirangi course. In 1922 there appeared to be some dissension in the Committee regarding the Maungakiekie Cup being competed for at Titirangi, and it was removed from the tournament and competed for at One Tree Hill. A new trophy, the Titirangi Cup, replaced the Maungakiekie Cup as the main trophy in the tournament, which became a regular feature in the Club's programme.

In the evening which followed the 1919 Maungakiekie Cup final, a smoke concert was given by the Club to welcome home members who had been on active service. Smoking concerts were social occasions where men would smoke and drink and speak of important matters while listening to live music. The President, G Lawrence Taylor occupied the chair, and the following toasts were honoured; "The Honoured Dead," "The Returned Men," "Kindred Clubs," and "The Game." A number of entertaining items were given by Messrs Cyril Towsey (a professional pianist), Burke, Wright, Crowther and Shortbridge, and Professor Maxwell Walker. Towsey and his wife subsequently became members of the Club over the next two months.

The 1919 Annual General Meeting was notable for the fact that a move to change the Rules to provide for "a Captain for each course in possession of the Club" was defeated.

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*Edward Prince of Wales and Lord Louis Mountbatten at the Ampitheatre during the 1920 Royal Visit*

## Royalty at Maungakiekie in 1920...

**H**anging in Maungakiekie's Clubhouse are a number of photographs of Edward Prince of Wales enjoying a round of golf on the Maungakiekie course at OneTree Hill on Friday 30 April 1920, soon after the start of the 1920 Royal Tour of New Zealand.

Normally such an event would have been the subject of much planning, as the 25 year old Prince was a very popular figure and was certain to attract large crowds wherever he appeared. This round of golf was however somewhat different, being arranged at the last moment with most of Auckland (including Maungakiekie members) not finding out about it until they had read about it in the newspaper the following morning.

The 1920 Royal Tour of New Zealand had begun on Saturday 24 April with the arrival of the Royal party in Auckland on board the Royal Navy's biggest and newest battleship, the HMS Renown. Following three days of civic engagements in Auckland it was intended that the Royal Party would spend the next six days travelling to Wellington on the Royal train, stopping at Hamilton en route to Rotorua on Tuesday 27 April. After two days in Rotorua the Royal train was then to leave on Thursday 29 April for New Plymouth, stopping at Te Kuiti and Taumarunui on the way. Playing golf was not on the Royal Party's schedule.

These arrangements were however thwarted by a nationwide strike of railwaymen, which forced the tour organisers to bring the Royal Party back to Auckland on the Royal Train after an extremely wet two days in Rotorua. In the words of the NZ Herald:

"It is expected there will be no difficulty on the run to Auckland, which is the home town of the trainmen here, who naturally are anxious to get back."

The train left Rotorua shortly before 1am on Friday 30 April, arriving in Auckland at 8am. Before leaving Rotorua the Prince had mingled with the crowd at the station as a private individual, and was not recognised by many. The NZ Herald of Saturday 1 May reported the previous day's events as follows:

"The Prince, wearing mufti, left the station without ceremony and walked into Queen Street and down the wharf to the Renown, where he had breakfast. After breakfast he motored out to the Maungakiekie Golf Club's links at One-tree Hill, and played a round of 18 holes with Lord Louis Mountbatten and Sir Godfrey Thomas. The Club's professional, H.R.Blair accompanied the party around the links. Later the Prince visited the Club's pavilion, signing the visitors' book and chatting with some ladies. He expressed himself as very pleased with the links. The ladies present cheered His Royal Highness on leaving, and he returned to the Renown for luncheon."

The photographs in Maungakiekie's Clubhouse show the Royal golfer on the Club's two most famous holes, the Ampitheatre and Jacob's Ladder. They also show very few spectators, for if the public had been aware of the event they would have flocked to the course in their thousands, such was the popularity of the Prince. The signatures of the four members of the royal golfing party, which comprised the Prince, Lord Louis (Dickie) Mountbatten, Sir Godfrey Thomas and H H Rogers, are also displayed in the Clubhouse.

Lord Louis Mountbatten was a cousin and close personal friend of the Prince of Wales, and on this Royal Tour was Flag Lieutenant (Equerry) to Vice-Admiral Sir Lionel Halsey, Chief of Staff to the Prince. Sir Godfrey Thomas was at that time the Personal Secretary to the Prince of Wales. In 1936, when the Prince became King Edward VIII Sir Godfrey became Assistant Personal Secretary to the new King, who within 9 months had



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abdicated the throne to marry Mrs Wallis Simpson. H H Rogers was Commander Hugh H Rogers, one of the senior officers on the HMS Renown. His role was obviously to escort the three golfers, and in one of the photographs at Maungakiekie he can be seen in uniform standing on the Jacob's Ladder green.

In a letter to his current lady friend back in England the Prince admitted to having played quite well after only having played two games in the previous two months. He was so impressed with the course that he returned with Sir Godfrey Thomas for a second round late on the following morning, Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> May 1920. That occasion is recorded in the following passage from the 1971 publication "Golf in New Zealand – A Centennial History" authored by G M Kelly:

".....holes like Jacobs Ladder and the Ampitheatre were famed throughout and beyond New Zealand. The Prince was particularly delighted by the Ampitheatre, delaying to hit several balls from the tee. Harry Blair, now (in 1971) a robust eighty-six but then professional to Maungakiekie, has recalled the sequel.

On the following morning, the Prince came back unannounced. He waited patiently in the shop while Blair mended a Club, and the two went out alone. Few spectators appeared, for Blair had astutely diverted attention to Middlemore. The visitor's game, however, went badly, though he tried one Club after another from an enormous assortment – explaining that they had been presented to him here and there. Finally, the significance of the professional's cool, critical gaze penetrated. "I suppose," said the Prince, "I have too many. What should I do with them?"

"Give them," replied Harry Blair promptly, "to someone you don't like." "

On the next day, Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 1920, following intensive negotiations between the railwaymen and the then Prime Minister, Mr Massey, the Prince was able to re-board the Royal train and complete his journey to Wellington.



## The Busy 1920s...

**A**part from the Prince of Wales visits to Maungakiekie the 1920s represented a significant growth period for the Club, both in terms of the development of the two courses and in the administration of the Club. In March of 1920 a Special General Meeting was held to adopt a new set of Rules. At that meeting the new rules provided for an executive supported by a Committee of four lady members (to be elected by the lady members) and five men (to be elected by the male members). A move to alter the rule to have a Committee of five lady members (elected by the ladies) and four men members (elected by the Male members) was defeated. Similarly the rule giving ladies one vote and men two votes at general meetings survived despite a move to give both men and ladies one vote each. Later in the year the ladies wrote to the general Committee expressing their unhappiness at this decision.

In April 1920 the tenancy of the Tramway Paddock was again under scrutiny with the Committee deciding to approach the Cornwall Park trustees to ascertain if a longer lease than the existing annual lease could be obtained. This decision was linked to another decision at the same meeting which lifted the restriction on the ladies membership numbers. The ladies had earlier proposed that their membership be closed at 165 in conjunction with a proposed extension to their dressing room to accommodate 40 new lockers. The Cornwall Park trustees however were not prepared to vary the existing one year tenancy.

At the May 1920 Committee meeting it was decided to increase the wages of the greenkeeper, Mr Timmins to £4.0.0 per week. It was also decided that G Petty be paid 5/- per week to be present at the Jacob's Ladder hole on Saturdays and Wednesdays to prevent boys from stealing golf balls.

Timmins' response was to hand in his resignation which was accepted at the June meeting, which then appointed Petty as head greenkeeper, together with an assistant, both to be paid £3.10.0 per week.

Later in the year the Committee decided "that in future the greenkeepers be not allowed to play golf on the links or to make use of the Club's pavilion for any purpose whatever," and further "that all balls found by the greenkeepers at Titirangi be handed in to the Club and paid for at the rate of one shilling each for a good ball."

A group of ladies who were engaged in business during the week, wrote to the Committee seeking permission to play on the One Tree Hill links between 1pm and 2pm on Saturdays. Permission was granted provided that they started their rounds from the Onehunga tee. This move by the ladies could be regarded as the start of the weekend ladies section of the Club.

One of the highlights in 1920 was the visit to Titirangi for an exhibition match of the great Australian professional golfer, J H Kirkwood, who had already won the Australian and New Zealand Championship in that year. At Titirangi Kirkwood teamed up with Blair to defeat Hood and Martin 7 up over a 12 hole course. Kirkwood was also a trick shot artist and after the match he treated the crowd to an exhibition of his skills. The class of Kirkwood can be measured by the following article which appeared in the Melbourne Herald earlier in the year;

"J H Kirkwood has commenced earnest practice for the Open Championship of Australia, the winning of which is an essential step towards greater deeds in a bigger sphere of action next year. Full wooden shots to the green with a heavy baffle are his special study, and it is delightful to see him, in pursuance of



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this object, pepper the green some 200 yards away with a score of balls, every one of which he has directed there with unerring accuracy. Recently he put the finishing touches to a new baffle, carefully fashioned and weighted to his needs. In the morning, going out with it and a score or so balls, he hit four splendid shots, and then, happy augury for the new Club, actually holed one. In the afternoon he repeated this practice, putting every ball on the green, and placing one within a foot of the pin. These are the telling shots. To be able to hit nine out of ten of them, from a variety of lies to the green some 200 yards away, as Kirkwood does in his matches, is the secret of the steady brilliance, the amazing consistency, of his most astonishing golf."

At the Annual General Meeting in November 1920 a question was asked regarding the future of the two courses at One Tree Hill and Titirangi. The chairman, G L Taylor, said that it was intended to keep both links, and the former would not be neglected or sacrificed in any way for the latter. It would be the endeavour of the Committee to give the Maungakiekie course the same attention as it had received in previous years.

Another highlight of the Club's golfing activities in 1920 was the success of Miss N Crowther in winning the Coronation Medal, one of the trophies played for in the LGU Home Links series of events. As far as is known she is the only Maungakiekie lady to have won that trophy. Rex George was also enjoying success, winning the Auckland Championship at Middlemore and the South Auckland Championship at Cambridge. He also won the Senior Club championship that year.

Although construction of the Clubhouse at Titirangi was well behind schedule, the new course was opened for play on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> May. It appears to have been used on a limited basis during the rest of 1920, although it was the venue for the men's match against a team from the Auckland Golf Club, Maungakiekie winning 18 matches to 9. The Maungakiekie ladies also played a match against the Auckland Golf Club at One Tree Hill, losing 7 matches to 6.

Early in 1921 the Club obtained permission from the One Tree Hill Domain Board to add two rooms to its pavilion to enable the Club's caretaker to live on the premises. By February the pavilion at Titirangi had still not been completed. £1175 was still needed to complete the building and the Finance Committee was instructed to raise a sum of £1500 by debentures "or otherwise".

Approval was granted to a group of members who wished to use a part of the Club's Titirangi property to construct tennis courts. The tennis courts were

built under a 5 year lease which provided some income to the Club and were still operating at the time of separation of Titirangi and Maungakiekie. In May 1921 the Titirangi Ladies were successful in becoming affiliated to the LGU. This meant that Maungakiekie had two courses which could both run LGU events. Because members could pay an increased subscription which allowed them to play on both courses, many ladies would be found playing on both courses on successive days. In 1921 the subscription for either course was 3 guineas for ladies and 5 guineas for gentlemen and for both courses was 4 guineas for ladies and 7 guineas for gentlemen. Titirangi's Clubhouse was also finally completed in May.

The men's Senior Championships were played at Titirangi for the first time in 1921, with the 36 hole qualifying round and all matches being played there, including the 36 hole final. This continued right through to 1930. The junior championships stayed at One Tree Hill until 1923, with both the 36 hole qualifying round and all matches being played there, including the 36 hole final. From 1924 to 1930 separate 36 hole qualifying rounds were held at both courses with the top 8 at each course proceeding to the match play round to produce a winner at each course. These two then played a 36 hole final with the first 18 holes generally being played at One Tree Hill and the second 18 holes being played at Titirangi a week later.

The Ladies championships were played at One Tree Hill until 1922. From 1923 onwards both of Maungakiekie's ladies Clubs ran separate championships at their own courses. As many ladies were members of both Clubs there were occasions where one lady was the senior champion of both the ladies Clubs within the overall Maungakiekie Club. Mrs R Dufar was a dual champion in 1925, Miss D Horton achieving that honour in 1927 and Mrs T W Hosking achieving it in 1930.

The Annual report to the November 1921 Annual General Meeting requested members to support a further debenture issue for course development and buildings at Titirangi and building extensions at One Tree Hill. At the first Committee meeting following that meeting it was decided that separate Greens and House sub-Committees would be established for each course. The Finance and Match sub-Committees and the Handicapper were common to both courses.

1922 saw further progress being made on both courses. A sub-Committee was set up to prepare a definite scheme for the Titirangi layout and approaches were made to the lessees of land adjacent to the Tramway Paddock at One Tree Hill

to see if any arrangement could be made to enable the Club to play golf over a portion of that land. The latter decision was to a large extent the result of a deterioration of relations between the Club and the One Tree Hill Domain Board during 1922. This started with the Club writing to the Domain Board complaining about the Board's horses galloping over their greens. Although the issue of the horses was resolved satisfactorily the minutes of the Board meeting recorded that "...the Golf Club had no right to complain considering the ridiculously low rent they were paying," and that the matter of the Club's lease would be dealt with at the next meeting.

The Domain Board, after looking at rentals paid by other golf Clubs, proposed a rent increase, which prompted the Club to advance seven reasons as to why the present rent should stand. This approach was successful and the Board granted a 12 month extension at the same rental.

A home and away series of interClub games was arranged against the Auckland Golf Club, the first at Titirangi being a draw at 5 matches each, and the second at Middlemore being won by Auckland 8 matches to 4. An interesting feature of these matches was that the two professionals Blair from Maungakiekie and Moss from Auckland also played matches, Moss winning both matches by margins of 3 and 2.

The Ladies Committee, with two courses now affiliated to the LGU, was successful in gaining Committee approval to form separate sub-Committees to manage the affairs of both links respectively.

It was reported in the NZ Herald that at the Annual General Meeting in November 1922 there was a general discussion as to the outlay of the Titirangi Course and the future of the One Tree Hill course. No resolutions were however passed in respect of those matters. At the first Committee meeting following the Annual Meeting it was decided that additional sub-Committees would be formed to represent each course. The Greens sub-Committee for each course was also given the role of Match sub-Committee for each course, separate Handicappers were appointed for each course, separate House sub-Committees were retained, and the Finance sub-Committee continued to

oversee both courses.

On a lighter note, members may well have been excused for thinking that the One Tree Hill course was being treated unfairly when in October the Greens Committee was authorised to buy a fresh horse for Titirangi and to transfer the present one to One Tree Hill. Four months later it was reported that the new horse was not giving satisfaction either.

During 1923 the Club was focused on continuing its development work at Titirangi. The Titirangi Greens sub-Committee provided two comprehensive reports to the general Committee, which approved such works as were affordable.

Another series of interClub games was arranged against the Auckland Golf Club, the first at Middlemore being won by the Auckland Club 8 matches to 4 and the second at Titirangi being won by Maungakiekie 9½ to 2½. Moss and Blair continued their rivalry, Moss winning the first 4 and 3 and the second 2 up. At the start of the second match between Moss and Blair an incident occurred which led to Blair appearing before the Committee and being reprimanded for comments made to a Committee member, Mr Rex George.

At the November 1923 Annual General Meeting it was decided to change the Club rules to the extent that the Club year would end on the 28th February instead of the 31<sup>st</sup> of October. This meant that the next Annual General Meeting would be held in March 1925. It was also decided that the number of Vice Presidents should be reduced from four to two and that one Committee member would be elected by the debenture holders to represent their interests. The meeting also decided to recommend to the incoming Committee that it obtain the best professional advice available before undertaking any further important work at Titirangi.

From an administrative viewpoint 1924 commenced with some dissension in the Committee, with reports being read from three of the scrutineers who assisted in counting votes at the Annual General Meeting. The issue was the election of the four Vice Presidents and after discussion the names of the four Vice Presidents announced at the Annual Meeting were allowed to

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stand. There was also discussion regarding payments of £10.0.0 each to the professionals Moss and Blair in respect of a report prepared by them in respect of bunkering at Titirangi. Rex George, who had opposed the payment subsequently resigned from the Titirangi Greens sub-Committee. At the same meeting a letter of resignation was received from Blair who was about to take up the professional's post at the Christchurch Golf Club after 10 years service at Maungakiekie. His replacement was C C Clements, who at that time was also a member of the Club.

The Maungakiekie Ladies Committee was approached late in 1924 by the Titirangi Ladies who requested that the Match day at One Tree Hill be altered from Wednesday. The request was considered by a special Committee meeting which decided that "Wednesday be kept for the Match Day at the One Tree Hill links." This was not the end of the matter because in 1926 the One Tree Hill Ladies Annual General Meeting decided that for 1927 they would move the Match Day to Tuesday. This was confirmed at a special meeting of the General Committee in 1927 which resolved that the Match Days in future be Tuesday at Maungakiekie and Thursday at Titirangi.

1925 and 1926 were perhaps two of the busiest years for the Club's administrators. Problems between the Club and the One Tree Hill Domain Board continued early in the year with the Board Secretary stopping the milk cart supplying the golf Clubhouse from driving through the Domain. His action was upheld by the Board and he was instructed to write stating that the Bylaws must be observed and that delivering of the milk could easily be made from Hayden Avenue.

The NZ Herald reported the March 1925 Annual General Meeting as follows:

"A proposal that the Maungakiekie Golf Club should abandon the nine holes on the slopes of One Tree Hill and substitute an adjacent 49 acres is occupying the attention of the Club Committee. Objection is taken to the growth of large trees, which interfere with play, and the annoyance of small boys. Being a public reserve, the slopes of the hill are frequented by children and picnickers, over whom the golf Club has no authority.

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Club last evening, the president, Mr G. Lawrence Taylor, stated that the Committee had been considering the position, and it was suggested that an effort might be made to obtain a lease of 49 acres adjacent to the tramways paddock. This would enable the Club to do away with the holes on the hillside in the One Tree Hill Domain, and so get over the difficulties

caused by the growing trees and the boys. The proposed new area would give a complete 18 hole course on the property of the Cornwall Park trustees and would enable the Club to exercise some authority over its own ground.

Mr C. F. Gardner considered it would be a calamity to lose the hillside holes, which were the most interesting on the whole course. He urged that they be retained.

Mr C. Treweek, vice captain, agreed that the proposal would mean a severe loss to the Club, but pointed out that many members never played on the hill. He had been told that in summer time it was too steep to climb and too easy to go down, and he added that in winter it was much the same – "you climb up on all fours and go down anyhow".

(Laughter)

Mr J. A. Stewart asked that more attention be paid to the condition of the course. He regretted the prevalence of a "Titirangi versus the Hill" feeling in the Club.

The chairman said that all members of the Committee were equally concerned with the welfare of both the Maungakiekie and Titirangi links. He was satisfied that, with the trees the size they were, it was quite necessary to do away with the holes in the One Tree Hill Domain."

Subsequently arrangements were made with the Cornwall Park trustees for the Club to take over the lease of the Loan and Mercantile paddock from the 1<sup>st</sup> of June, the rent being £5 per acre per annum. In terms of location the L&M paddock fronted Campbell Road roughly between Mariri Road and Tiwai Road. Like the Tramway paddock it also extended back to the stone wall that still separates Cornwall Park from the One Tree Hill Domain. As the additional area occupied 49½ acres, the annual rent was almost £250, but as £150 was being paid by Mr T R W Gill to continue grazing sheep on the area the net cost to the Club was just over £100 per annum. A sub-Committee was appointed to approach the professionals Lusk and Moss on the outlay of the proposed holes to be created in the L&M paddock. However it appears that the professionals were not consulted and the sub-Committee inspected the area before confirming that the Club's playing area should be confined to the Tramway and L&M paddocks as from the 1<sup>st</sup> October. Acting on this advice the Committee agreed that the lease of the playing area from the One Tree Hill Domain Board be terminated from that date. Interestingly it was also resolved that the earlier resolution referring to consultation with the professionals be rescinded.

It was also resolved at the March 1925 Annual General Meeting that the Committee shall have power to appoint an additional member each year

to represent the Maungakiekie links on the Committee. At the first meeting of the new Committee Mr A. M. Blackburn was appointed to that role.

In August the Club's action in terminating the lease from the Domain Board prompted the Board to write to the Club quoting the terms of the lease that had been agreed to back in 1910. The letter accepted the Club's notice and stated that the Board would take over the pavilion on the previously agreed terms. It also asked the Club to appoint a valuer to act on the Club's behalf with Mr Rowe, who was the Board's representative in any matter requiring valuation. The Board also resolved to adhere to its earlier resolution declining to allow tradesmen's carts to use the main drive to supply the golf pavilion with goods. After discussing the letter the Committee decided to send a sub-Committee to the Board to discuss the issues.

To complicate matters some of the Middlemore ladies (it is not clear whether they were members of the Auckland Ladies Golf Club Committee or just a number of their members) had approached the Maungakiekie ladies to consider the proposition that if Maungakiekie was able to sub-let the Domain section of the links to them, the Maungakiekie ladies would consider allowing them to share their Clubhouse. At this time it is known that the Middlemore ladies were having trouble getting start times at the Auckland Golf Club. The Maungakiekie ladies held a special Committee meeting to discuss this matter and decided "that the Maungakiekie ladies would object to share their Clubhouse".

When the Club's sub-Committee met the Domain Board it discovered that the same group of ladies had already approached the Board for the right to form a nine hole course along with the use of the pavilion. The Board subsequently advised the Club that it could either continue its lease at the present rental, which was £110 per annum, or relinquish the playing rights over the Domain and retain the Clubhouse and site at an annual rental of £75 for two years. Responding to the Board's offer the Club withdrew its termination of the lease of the playing area of the Domain and sought the Board's approval to a new lease based on the

Club being able to arrange for additional income by sub-leasing the golfing rights over certain holes. The Club offered the Board a ground rental of £50 for the pavilion site and would raise no objection to a new ladies Club erecting a small pavilion alongside the Club's pavilion.

Later in the year it was realised that this approach would not work and agreement was reached on the terms of a new lease which only covered the area occupied by the Clubhouse. Details of that lease do not appear in the minutes of the Board or the Club and it was not finally signed by the Domain Board until May 1926.

While the lease situation was being discussed with the Domain Board, work was progressing on the nine new holes that were being constructed on the L&M paddock, adjacent to the nine existing holes on the Tramway paddock. C. C. Clements, the Club's recently appointed professional, is credited with the design of the new holes. Informal play commenced on the new 18 hole course early in October 1925 and it was officially opened on Saturday 17 October. The following excerpts from the NZ Herald report on the new course illustrate the character of the new course:

"It is a delightful stretch of country, commanding a magnificent view over the Manukau, Mangere and Tamaki districts. Several of the new holes provide vistas giving fairways of a stately avenue like appearance, and the general environment is altogether delightful for the game. The length of the new course is 5622 yards, which is less than the championship standard but is 600 yards longer than the old course. One of the greatest inconvenience golfers suffered on the old links was the stealing of balls by children, the hidden greens making this easy. The stealing of balls is almost impossible on the new links, as few of the new greens are obscured, in addition to which the course is not public property. It should prove very attractive to visitors."

"In some quarters regret has been expressed at the loss of the view which used to be obtained from the old Ampitheatre hole, but the view from the ninth green on Saturday surpassed that obtained from any position on the old course."

At Titirangi the layout of the course was attracting



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much discussion. In August 1925 Clements provided the Committee with a plan for the re-arrangement of the Titirangi course which provided a second starting place near the Clubhouse. It was decided that Moss and Clements would inspect the proposed alterations and report on them. Moss reported back to the Committee in September that he supported the Clements plan, which led them to empower the Greens Committee to carry out the necessary work when labour was available, provided a course of at least 6200 yards could be achieved.

This obviously stimulated interest among the members with two of them, Messrs J. C. Wilson and Mr Magson submitting alternative plans to the Committee in October. The present Captain, R. O. Gardner and the previous Captain W. J. A. Thompson were authorised to confer with Moss and Clements to report on the best layout of the course regardless of cost. The report was considered by the Committee in March 1926. It favoured the Clements layout and was adopted by the Committee which also resolved that it be placed before the members at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting. It was further resolved that the New Zealand Golf Council be written to ascertain if the Club could procure the services of one of its professionals to report on the course. At the March 1926 Annual General Meeting the future layout of the course appears to have been the main topic of discussion. After considerable debate it was decided that the present course be adhered to, that the Committee be instructed to go on with the bunkering, and that the provision of a second starting place near the Clubhouse be considered. The issue of the layout of Titirangi then died down until June when the Committee was advised that Dr Alister McKenzie could be visiting Australia to advise on their links. It was decided that enquiries would be made to see if there was a possibility that he could also visit New Zealand as part of his visit to Australia.

A reply from the Australia golfing authorities was considered at the July Committee meeting. It suggested an Australian golf course designer, J. D. A. Scott, who the Committee decided to contact along with McKenzie when his address became available. Scott's reply stating his fees for visiting Auckland and laying out the course was received in September and he was advised that a definite answer could not be given at that time. By November contact had been made with McKenzie who was obviously keen to visit New Zealand and provide a report and layout plans for the Titirangi course. His fee for this was £250.0.0 which was accepted by a special Committee meeting in November subject to satisfactory detailed arrangements being made.

A further special Committee meeting in December set up a sub-Committee to liaise with McKenzie and also resolved that a Special General Meeting of members be called for 21<sup>st</sup> December "to consider the adoption of a scheme for the layout of the Titirangi course to be obtained from Dr McKenzie and his opinion regarding equipment for both courses." However the resolution that was put to the meeting and subsequently carried read "That this meeting authorises the scheme for the lay out of the Titirangi course as to be defined by Dr. McKenzie." McKenzie's report on the layout of the course and his recommendations as to machinery were discussed by a special Committee meeting in late January 1927, when it was resolved to purchase a Pattison tractor and a Ransome Quintuple mower for each course.

Another Special General Meeting was held on 9 February 1927 which rescinded previous resolutions relating to staying with the present layout and bunkering and which resolved "That the layout of the course as recommended and planned by Dr. McKenzie be adopted and that the work be carried out forthwith." At the same meeting it was decided to recommend to the Committee that Mr Redhead be appointed to supervise the carrying out of Dr. McKenzie's scheme and that Mr H. W. Cooke be in charge of the work of alterations. Redhead was a noted New Zealand golf course architect who four years beforehand had provided the Auckland Golf Club with advice on the design of bunkers at the Middlemore course.

At the March 1927 Annual General Meeting A. D. S. Duncan was elected as an Honorary Life Member of the Club. Duncan was one of the best players that New Zealand had produced and up until that time had won the New Zealand Amateur title no less than 10 times, between 1899 and 1926. Duncan had also won the Open Championship of New Zealand three times. None of his wins in those events were on either of the two courses administered by the Maungakiekie Golf Club although he had won the Amateur title on the three occasions it was contested at One Tree Hill during the Auckland Golf Club's tenancy.

During 1927 work on implementing the McKenzie plan for Titirangi was well under way, with many drains being piped and rough being cleared. This work was supervised by H. W. (Bert) Cooke who was assisted by T. H. Chapman and P. Harrison acting in a consultative capacity. Further additions were made to the One Tree Hill pavilion following assurances made by the Cornwall Park trustees that the new road through the course would be at least five years away.

A sub-Committee had been established to investigate the appointment of a resident secretary for the Club, to be based at Titirangi. By June the Committee had appointed Mr Sloane Morpeth to that post. A bonus of 25 guineas was given to the retiring Secretary, Mr M. E. Ward, who had served the Club through some difficult times over the past six years. In July 1927 the Committee resolved to make Morpeth and Mr F McNeill who was appointed the previous year as Assistant Secretary based at Maungakiekie, members of the Club, with their names being posted in the Club in accordance with the rules. They were duly elected as members in August 1927. Sloane Morpeth went on to win the New Zealand Amateur Championship in Hamilton the following month. He had already won the same title in 1920, also at Hamilton, and won again in 1929 at Wanganui. Later in the year he was selected to represent New Zealand against Australia in the Kirk Windyer Cup and was granted leave of absence for that purpose. To cap the year off Morpeth also won the Club championship, beating Rex George in the final.

By now there were signs that the Club was apprehensive regarding its tenure of the One Tree Hill course. A letter was sent to the Cornwall Park trustees seeking a five year lease but the response was predictably that the trustees would still only grant a one year lease to the Club. This did not deter the One Tree Hill members from requesting that the 8<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> greens be reconstructed, this work being undertaken the next year.

A patent ball cleaner was presented to the Lady members by Mr Wake, who makes the following condition that if in the event of the One Tree Hill Links going out of existence the ball cleaner reverts to him and is not to be absorbed by Titirangi Club. Special mention was also made in the Ladies' minutes of Mr McNeill regarding the C Grade ladies, who were originally going to have only one match each month but who (thanks to Mr McNeill) had actually achieved fields of up to 30 players each week.

In December 1927 the Club was successful in obtaining a £10,000.0.0 first mortgage over the Titirangi property from the Bank of New Zealand at a rate of 6% on a 25 year table basis. This mortgage was guaranteed by Messrs J. R. Self, E. R. Davis, G. I. Taylor and H. M. Rogerson and

enabled the Club to consolidate its financial position. Letters of deep appreciation were sent to those four guarantors. Clements resigned as the Club's professional early in 1928, and it was decided to advertise for his replacement throughout New Zealand. E. A. Douglas was appointed as his replacement.

At the March 1928 Annual General Meeting there was an unsuccessful attempt made to change the makeup of the Committee to more fairly represent the interests of the One Tree Hill membership. The Annual Report presented to that meeting showed that membership of the Club was continuing to rise and had reached 748 members, comprising 291 lady members, 263 gentlemen members, and 194 "other" members.

A report on the increasing membership was considered by the Committee in July but any action on it was deferred until the following month. Also at the July meeting it was decided on the recommendation of the One Tree Hill lady Committee members that applications from ladies who would be classified as weekend lady players at either course be refused. Later in the year it was decided to close off the membership of the Maungakiekie Ladies Golf Club at 287. The One Tree Hill Ladies Committee decided that a cup presented by Mrs Grevatt would be competed for on the same basis as the Kingswell Shield, ie best two of three par rounds. This cup is still competed for by the Maungakiekie ladies as a match play event.

Mr J. M. Elliffe, who had been the Club's auditor for some years presented the Club with a cup for match play competition at the One Tree Hill links. This cup is still played for by the current members. What is believed to be the only match played between the Titirangi and One Tree Hill gentlemen members took place in late July. It was a fourball match with all proceeds being given to the campaign for the Poor and Needy. At this time it was still the custom for players to play as two-balls at four minute intervals, and fourballs did not have any real status on the course. This was emphasised the following year when a member did, on a Sunday, play a fourball match in defiance of a ruling of the Match Committee.

A special General Meeting was held in September 1928 to address a projected debit balance for the

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year. This resulted in subscriptions and entrance fees being increased, and for the first time members electing to play at Titirangi would pay a slightly higher subscription than those who elected to play at One Tree Hill.

Work on the McKenzie plan at Titirangi was nearing completion early in 1929. In recognition of the time and service that Mr H. W. Cooke had given to this task which had produced no equal in the Dominion for green construction, the Committee resolved to recommend to the Annual General Meeting that he be elected as an Honorary Life Member of the Club. This was duly confirmed at the Annual General Meeting during which tributes were paid to Mr G. Lawrence Taylor who had been the Club's President since 1918 and had steered it through some very challenging and productive times.

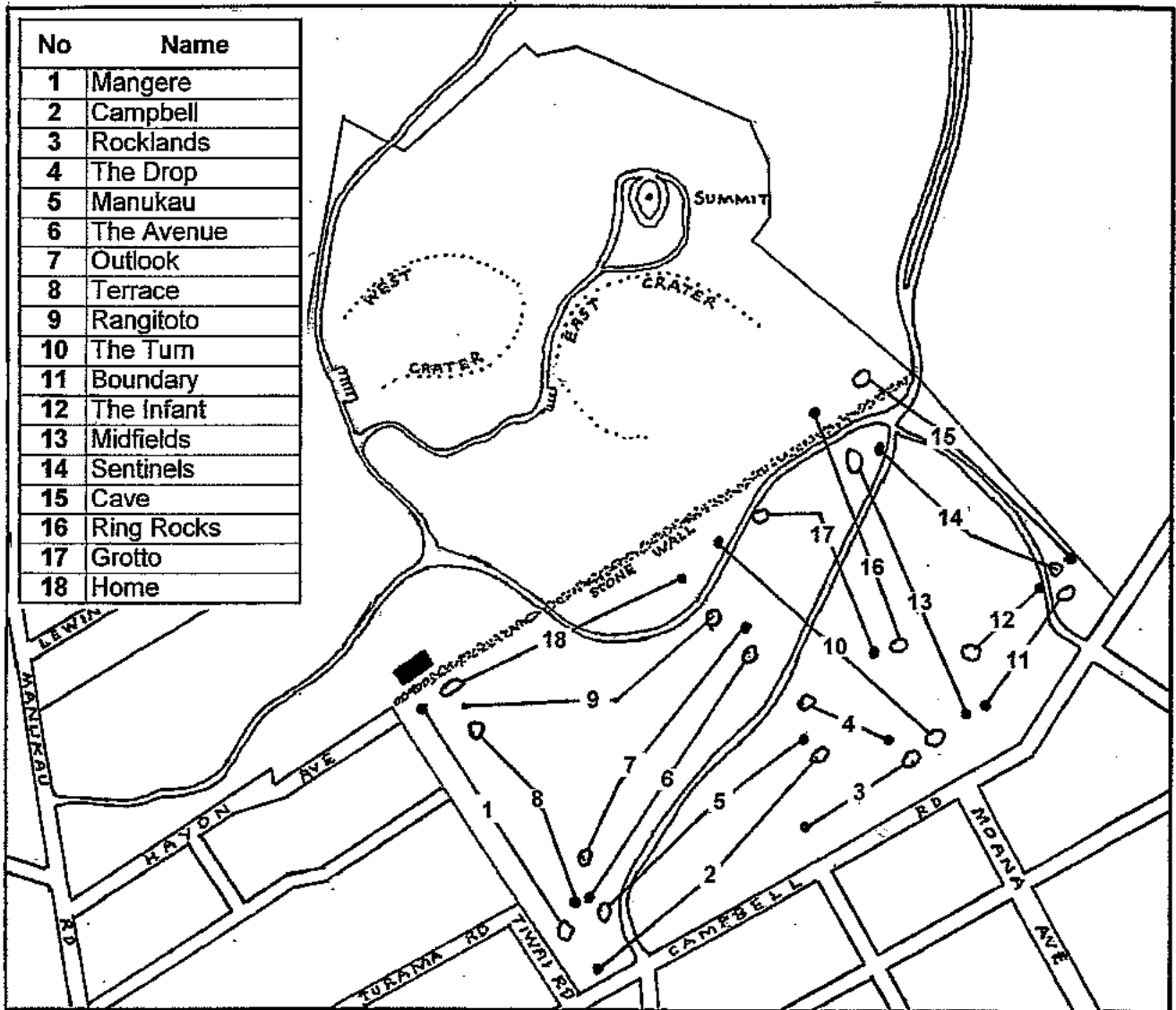
During 1929 the Club again experienced troubles with its leases at One Tree Hill. The One Tree Hill Domain Board indicated that the rental paid by the Club would increase from £55.0.0 per annum to £110.0.0 per annum. This prompted the Committee to instruct the Secretary "to advise all applicants for membership of the Maungakiekie course of the fact of the likelihood of the Club losing the tenure of the One Tree Hill property." At the same meeting Mr C. J. Schnauer reported that the Cornwall Park trustees had given him a definite assurance that the yearly tenure which was usually granted to the Club was likely to cease within two years. At the following Committee meeting in August Schnauer reported that he had suggested to the trustees that an amended scheme of roading through the course should be prepared so as to preserve the links. It was resolved:

"that in an effort to retain the links at One Tree Hill as a golf course, a petition be circulated for signatures, and that a delegation of the whole of the Committee with power to add to their number, wait on the trustees with the petition."

There is no further report of the delegation or the petition, possibly because of an assurance by the Cornwall Park trustees that nothing would be done to disturb the Club before October 1931 at the earliest.

Sloane Morpeth was once again the winner of the New Zealand Amateur Championship, and also represented New Zealand in Australia, where he won the Victorian Amateur title. Not long after his return from Australia he resigned his post as Secretary to the Club to take up the post of Manager of the Commonwealth Golf Club in Melbourne. A bonus of ten guineas was paid to Morpeth as an appreciation of a person who combined the qualities of a good secretary with those of an outstanding golfer. Appointing a successor to Morpeth proved to be a challenging task, with over 30 applications being received. Unfortunately the chosen candidate had been unable to cope with the work and had quickly resigned, leading to the Committee then appointing the candidate who had been the second choice. This person also found that he was unable to cope with the many duties required and he also quickly resigned. The Committee then turned to Mr M. E. Ward, who had previously served for some years as Secretary to the Club, and had stood in for Morpeth on his trips to Australia as a New Zealand representative. The appointment of Ward did raise some discussion within the Committee as in the past he had been inclined to carry out his own ideas rather than those of the Committee. After a clear discussion on this issue had been had with Ward he was duly appointed and served the Club well, especially during the impending separation of the Club into two Clubs.

1930 saw the Club dealing with routine matters until the August Committee meeting, which marked the start of the process for dividing the Club in to two separate Clubs. The catalyst was possibly the fact that the new Titirangi course did have a water supply to its greens while the One Tree Hill course did not.



The Club's Course 1925-1942

## One Club Becomes Two...

**A**t the Committee meeting on 5 August 1930 a letter was received from Mr J M (Mac) Elliffe, one of the two Vice Presidents of the Club, stating that a meeting of members had been held at One Tree Hill to consider the question of the formation of two Clubs. The letter indicated that a sub-Committee had been elected and wished to confer with a sub-Committee representing the general Committee. This was agreed to on the basis that the discussions would be on the question of finance only.

The background to Elliffe's request appears to be based on a feeling by the One Tree Hill members that the funding required to develop the Titirangi course meant that improvements to the One Tree Hill course were not being undertaken. There had also been references to there being a "them and us" attitude between the sections of the membership who chose to play at either Titirangi or One Tree Hill.

The two sub-Committees duly met; with the outcome being that agreement was reached that there should be "a severance so as to enable the formation of a separate Club to control the Links at One Tree Hill." Eleven One Tree Hill members signed the request for a Special General Meeting which was held on 17<sup>th</sup> October 1930.

It can be seen from the copy of the notice of the Special General Meeting that considerable thought had been applied to both the resolutions and to the information that supported them. Issues such as advancing the game of golf, creating greater interest, progress and harmony, and promotion of good Club spirit were key elements that the separation was intended to achieve.

The next day's NZ Herald provided this report on the meeting:

"The division of the Maungakiekie Golf Club into two separate organisations, each controlling one of the courses at present under the jurisdiction of the Club, was decided on at a Special General Meeting of members, held in the Chamber of Commerce Hall last evening. The present Club, which will continue to control the Titirangi Course, will in future be known as the Titirangi Golf Club, while the One Tree

Hill Links will be vested in the new Club, which will probably take the title of the Maungakiekie Club.

At a conference of representatives from the two links, it was agreed to carry out the severance, subject to the endorsement of the meeting, on the condition that the One Tree Hill Club assumed £400 of the Club's overdraft at the end of the present financial year. It was proposed that all members before May 31, 1931 should determine in which Club they should retain full membership, and should remain honorary members of the other Club until February 28, 1932, when the severance of the two organisations would be complete. The honorary members of the present Club, totalling about 15, should remain honorary members of both Clubs.

The motion to vest the leasehold and assets of the Club at One Tree Hill in an independent Club was brought forward by Mr C. J. Schnauer, one of the convenors of the meeting. After recalling the history of the One Tree Hill links he said that since the Club had purchased the freehold property at Titirangi, it had been in a most unusual situation in that it controlled two links several miles apart. Its activities had been centred in the laying out and improvement of Titirangi, while play at One Tree Hill had been on an area leased under an annual arrangement with the trustees of Cornwall Park.

Summer play was becoming more and more popular, and the standard of links required to be kept up all the year round. The provision of a water supply for the greens at One Tree Hill was required, while a putting green in a more suitable position and a better system of bunkering were other improvements which should be made. These necessitated some expenditure and it had proved uneconomical to carry on two complete courses several miles apart. "We feel that we cannot get these improvements as long as the present position continued" concluded Mr Schnauer. "The two courses require a complete double expenditure."

"It is only fair to the players at One Tree Hill who are asking for the right to conduct their own links that we, who have received their support in the past should give them equal support now" said Mr H. M. Rogerson. "Interest has gravitated more to Titirangi as the Club's own links and One Tree Hill has suffered. This is our opportunity to remedy the position."

"I know the terms of the lease of the One Tree Hill links and I know the minds of the trustees. I think that members need have no uneasiness about the future of the Hill course," said Mr J. T. F. Mitchell.

After a discussion, during which a number of members opposed the scheme, the motion was carried by a large majority. It was then decided to alter the name of the existing Club to the Titirangi Club."

It is a testament to the goodwill that existed within the members and administrators of the original Maungakiekie Golf Club that the division of the Club into two Clubs was essentially completed within ten weeks of the suggestion being put to the general Committee.

The proposal contemplated by the first resolution is the result of a conference between representatives of the Titirangi Links and the One Tree Hill Links at which subject to your endorsement the following terms were agreed upon for a severance so as to enable the formation of a separate Club to control the Links at One Tree Hill :—

1. That the links at One Tree Hill assume £400 of the Club's overdraft at the end of the present financial year, viz. : 28th February, 1931.
2. That all members before 31st May next shall determine in which Club they shall retain full membership but notwithstanding such election they shall until the 28th February, 1932 remain as Honorary Members of the other Club. Membership of the latter Club shall entirely cease on 28th February, 1932 unless the member prior to that date decides to become a full playing member of such latter Club and pay the fees payable in that behalf.

It is submitted :

- (a) That the severance will enable the members of One Tree Hill to enjoy independence and thereby foster and promote a Club spirit and will enable the members of each Club to centralise their interests and progress in their respective links.
- (b) That failing severance, improvements at One Tree Hill are desired in the nature of : providing permanent water for greens, re-making greens, fertilising fairways, bunkering, and a putting green in a more suitable position.
- (c) That the present annual subscription for playing members on both links is insufficient for the privileges enjoyed and the total revenue of the Club not only necessitates curtailment in ordinary expenditure but does not permit of the desired improvements at One Tree Hill.
- (d) That the severance whereby an additional Club will be established must advance the game of Golf and tend towards greater interest, progress and harmony.

We commend the proposal to your consideration and invite your attendance and favourable support at the meeting.

Chas. J. Schnauer  
 L. B. Schnauer  
 Frank Wiseman  
 J. M. Elliffe  
 W. O. Lane  
 J. W. Clarke  
 Robt. Angus  
 F. W. Wilson  
 J. T. F. Mitchell  
 C. R. Jones  
 R. H. Melville

Signatories to request under rule 22.

RESOLUTIONS.

1. That the Committee do such acts or take such steps as it may consider advisable to effectually vest the leasehold and assets of the Club at One Tree Hill in an independent Golf Club on such terms as the Committee may deem satisfactory.

If the foregoing resolution is passed, to consider, and if thought fit, to pass the following resolution :—

2. That Rule 1 of the Rules of the Club be deleted and the following Rule be substituted in lieu thereof :
  - (1) The name of the Club is "The Titirangi Golf Club (Incorporated)".

—

N.B.—Only playing members and life members are entitled to vote.

*The 1930 notice of the Special General Meeting which led to the separation of the two Clubs*

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**Taiwanese Members**

# The 1930s...

One Tree Hill members of the “old” Maungakiekie Golf Club met on 31<sup>st</sup> October to subscribe to and become members of the “new” Maungakiekie Golf Club, and to elect an initial Executive which would run the Club until an Annual General Meeting planned for 1932. At that meeting it was also agreed that the new Club would, with appropriate amendments adopt the Rules of the “parent” Club. Members of the new executive were;

President	Mr C.J.Schnauer
Vice Presidents	Mr J.T.F.Mitchell and Mr F Wiseman
Captain	Mr J.M. Elliffe
Vice Captain	Mr J. Methven
Committee	Mrs Burton, Miss Haslett, Mr George Hardley, Mr D.D.Holland, Mr H.Morpeth, Mr A.K.Turner, F.W.Wilson
Auditor	Mr D.R.Garrard

Four days before that meeting the Maungakiekie Ladies Committee had met and had offered £25 from their bank account to assist the new Club in paying off the £400 overdraft that had been agreed with Titirangi under the terms of the separation. This offer was accepted by the executive, who offered to repay it over the next 5 years.

In November 1930 the ladies secretary reported that the Club has over 130 players competing in its handicap matches, averaging 108 competitors per match, this being the largest Club entry in NZ, and necessitates very careful management to satisfy and sometimes pacify the many contestants. It was also reported that the C Grade have had a match every week through the season, the largest being 32 players, Maungakiekie being the only Club holding a weekly C grade match.

An interesting aside to the Committee meeting which took place immediately after the establishment meeting was that the minutes of both meetings were taken by an un-named member with the title of Acting Assisting Secretary. A pencilled note at the close of those minutes read as follows;

“Secretary: The Acting Assistant Secretary was notified by Chairman there was no hope of his being appointed.”  
(Tough love was obviously alive and well in those times!)

From an administrative viewpoint the separation became complete at the general Committee meeting on 3 February 1931. At that meeting it was resolved that the assets of the Club situated at One Tree Hill be handed over to the newly formed Maungakiekie Golf Club (Inc) upon the payment by Maungakiekie of £400. Mr H. M. Rogerson, who chaired the meeting, then stated that as there was no further business which interested the Maungakiekie members of the Committee, they were at liberty to retire. He thanked them for their service on the Committee and wished the new Club every success.

Unfortunately the minutes of the original Maungakiekie Golf Club do not indicate how its moveable assets such as trophies were to be divided between the two new Clubs. The new Maungakiekie Club became the owners of the Kingswell Shield, the Elliffe Cup, the Wiseman Shield, the Roll of Honour which had been presented by G L Taylor, and a number of photographs taken at the Jacobs Ladder and Ampitheatre holes on the One Tree Hill section of the original course. The photographs include a number taken in 1920 when Edward Prince of Wales played on the course and what is believed to be an earlier photograph of the Ampitheatre hole presented to the Club by N P Green in 1915.

One of the first actions of the new Committee was to arrange for the provision of a water supply to thirteen of the greens. This was completed in January 1931 at a total cost of around £320. It was also decided to engage Mr C. H. Redhead to provide an expert opinion on the course. Redhead presented his plans to the new Committee on 17 November 1930 and a sub-Committee of Messrs Cooke, George, Chapman and Turner was appointed to report on them. At the following meeting it was decided that as the new Club’s membership would not be known until April 1931, it would be better to wait and see how finances stood before progressing with Redhead’s plans. Although Redhead attended the May 1932

Committee meeting to discuss matters in connection with the construction work on the course, his plans were not mentioned in the minutes until May 1937, when the Committee resolved to write to him thanking him for the assistance he had given in connection with that work. Most of that work had been supervised by Rex George and it seems very likely that many of Redhead's plans had been implemented over that period.

In January 1931 the Club appointed Mr D.R. (Raoul) Garrard as Secretary at a salary of £2 per week and Mr Rex George as Match Secretary at a salary of £1.10.0 per week. Later in the year Rex George also became the Club's handicapper. At the same meeting it was decided to appoint Mr T. (Tom) Galloway of the Chateau Tongariro as the Club's professional, followed a month later by the appointment of Maughan as greenkeeper.

From an administrative viewpoint the separation became complete at the Titirangi Committee meeting on 3 February 1931. Up until that time the One Tree Hill based members of the executive had been attending the regular meetings of the original (by now Titirangi) Maungakiekie Golf Club. At that meeting it was resolved that the assets of the Club situated at One Tree Hill be handed over to the newly formed Maungakiekie Golf Club (Inc) upon the payment by Maungakiekie of £400.0.0. Mr H. M. Rogerson, who chaired the meeting, then stated that as there was no further business which interested the Maungakiekie members of the Committee, they were at liberty to retire. He thanked them for their service on the Committee and wished the new Club every success.

The new President, Mr C J Schnauer opened the new season on Saturday 14 March 1931, expressing the hope that members would enjoy many pleasant and health-giving hours on the links.

At the April Committee meeting it was decided that the Ladies Club Secretary, Miss Haslett, the Match Secretary, Mr George, and the General Secretary, Mr Garrard "be not charged their subscriptions." Twelve months later this was made a standing rule.

The separation of the Clubs marked a significant change in the way the Club's minutes were kept.

Under the original Maungakiekie Club the minutes were quite descriptive and each month they contained details of the accounts that were passed for payment. They also included a copy of the notice of the Annual General Meeting and the Annual Report. Following the separation the minutes for the new Maungakiekie Club did not contain this information and in some instances did not contain details of reports provided by important sub-Committees. This has made some areas of the history of the Club quite difficult to research.

A full programme of golf was achieved in 1931, although the 36 hole qualifying rounds for the men's championships were disrupted by heavy rain which flooded the greens and caused play to be abandoned. Instead of replaying the qualifying rounds it was decided that all players who had been prepared to play on the day would qualify. This meant that byes had to be catered for in the match play draw. Rex George won the men's championship and later in the season he also won the Auckland Champion of Champion's contest. Miss K. F. (Kitty) Horton won the ladies Club championship.

Although stymies have not been part of golf since the 1950's they were very much a part of match play golf at this time. A stymie occurred on the putting green when an opponent's ball lay between the ball to be played next, and the hole, providing the two balls were more than six inches apart. Under the rules of golf if the balls were less than six inches apart the player could request that the offending ball be marked. If the balls were more than six inches apart the rules made no provision for the offending ball to be marked, and the player had to play a shot either over or around the offending ball. A good example of the effect that stymies could have on a match was the following NZ Herald report on a match between two prominent Auckland Golf Club players, Black and Lusk.

"The players were all square at the 17<sup>th</sup>, where Lusk was presented with a stymie, which he tried to negotiate by swerving the ball with the putter. The water on the greens prevented any cut on the ball from taking effect, and the attempt failed, with the result that Lusk was 1 down. The position was reversed at the 18<sup>th</sup> where Black was faced with a 3 ft stymie for a half and the match. The position of the obstructing ball on the lip of the hole presented

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an awkward shot which gave Black no chance of lofting the ball over. Black therefore played to the side, and with terrific cut on the ball brought off a marvellous shot."

Under the rules of golf at that time, if Black's ball had knocked Lusk's ball into the hole, Lusk would have been deemed to have holed out with his previous shot and would have won the hole.

Ladies' membership was growing so fast in 1931 that the Committee decided to close the list at 225 playing members. This was partly due to the fact that with the Titirangi split there were a number of members with "honorary" status which would enable them to change to full playing next season, which would cause overcrowding. Entries for the ladies matches were as large as ever, every member taking a keen interest and entering in all events which they are entitled to.

The following excerpt from the 1931 Ladies Secretary's report is worth quoting, as it epitomises the friendly spirit that Maungakiekie has maintained through to the present time;

"The C grade matches commenced on April 16<sup>th</sup>. These are greatly enjoyed by the players many of whom come into the Club without knowing a single member. Through these matches they grow confidence, make friends and finally earn handicaps, which is the most important thing of all. A match with the Handicap players was held on August 27<sup>th</sup>. This is an annual affair and is of great benefit to the C Grade who greatly appreciate the help and advice they receive."

From an administration viewpoint 1932 was a year of consolidation for the executive, with the highlight being the election (subject to confirmation at the next General Meeting in March 1933) of Mr. C. J. Schnauer as an Honorary Life Member for services rendered to the Club, particularly during the negotiations with the Titirangi Club with respect to the severance. In July 1932 Schnauer had presented the men's section of the Club with a cup for 72 hole medal competition. Two months later Schnauer presented the ladies with a similar cup in memory of his late wife Mary, who had passed away in August 1932. Both cups are still keenly contested.

It is interesting to note that at that time the rules of the Club provided for Life Members, these being members who had paid a lump sum to avoid having to pay further subscriptions, and Honorary Life Members, who achieved that status through their service to the Club. In more recent times the title of Honorary Life Member has been replaced by the title of Life Member, with the Committee or

Board decision not having to be ratified by a subsequent General Meeting.

At an early stage in the history of the ladies section of the Club, Walker and Hall had presented them with a sterling silver cup for the winner of the season's Putting Competition. As was the custom with many trophies in those days it could be won outright if the same person won it in successive years. This happened in 1930 and 1931, when it was won by Mrs A. Horton. It was also won by Mrs W.H. Horton in 1929. Consequently there was no cup available for competition in 1932. When Walker and Hall discovered this they offered the ladies a replacement sterling silver cup to take its place, and suggested that it be named the Haslett Putting Cup as a compliment to Miss Haslett who had just announced her retirement from six years as Honorary Ladies Secretary. This cup is still being played for but can no longer be won outright.

Subscriptions for 1933 were fixed at £9.1.0 for men and £4.11.0 for ladies. They included a fee of one shilling for insurance cover. Membership grew steadily during 1933 with 85 new members joining the Club. By June the men's membership had grown to 143 and it was decided that an Entrance Fee would be imposed when it reached 150 members. This figure was reached in July and an entrance fee (amount unknown) was duly charged to new members. Early in 1933 the ladies suggested that the holes be named. The chosen names appear on the scorecard below. The ladies Committee also drew up its list of Local Rules, including this instruction on "How to Place a Ball" .... "Hold the ball six inches off the ground and gently drop"

Sadly the Club's President, C J Schnauer passed away in June 1933, only a few months after his Honorary Life Membership had been confirmed. J M Elliffe assumed the role of President for the remainder of the year and his role of Club Captain was assumed by Mr H (Hector) Morpeth. As part of the reshuffle of posts Mr L B Schnauer was elected to the Committee.

By now the increase in membership meant that the Clubhouse was not able to adequately cater for the needs of the members. As two architects, Messrs Lloyd and Hooper, had both submitted sketch plans a secret ballot was held by the Committee to decide which one would be chosen. Lloyd was the winner and Hooper was paid five guineas for the work involved in preparing his plans. A price of £1000 excluding furnishings, was set for the alterations, which with the approval of the bank manager could be financed by members subject to limited guarantees.



The new Clubhouse was opened by the Club's Patron, His Excellency the Governor General, Lord Bledisloe at a function on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 1934. To mark the occasion Lord Bledisloe presented the Club with a cup which is still played for by both men and ladies. It is a matchplay event with qualifying on net medal determining the 16 qualifiers. Each year the two winners' names are recorded on the one cup.

By the end of 1934 it became obvious that there had been an increase in the number of unfinancial members. Although not recorded in the minutes this may have been influenced by the Great Depression which hit New Zealand particularly hard in the 1930s. At the Committee meeting on 7 February 1935 it was decided that up to 20 new men members should be admitted to the Club without payment of an Entrance Fee. This number was increased to 32 just three weeks later and was followed by a limit of 155 men members being imposed. In February 1936 the Entrance Fee was imposed again, but one month later that decision was rescinded and a limit of 165 men members was imposed.

Back in March 1935 it was decided that the Secretary, Mr Garrard, would take over the match supervision work from Rex George and that Mr George would be retained by the Club in a consulting capacity at an annual fee of £21 plus his annual subscription. Garrard was also granted a salary increase of £25 per annum. It was also decided that both men's wives would also have their subscriptions granted.

In October 1935 the Captain Mr H Morpeth presented the Veterans Cup to the Club. Morpeth resigned his captaincy at the next Annual Meeting and became a member of the Committee before resigning from that position one year later, only to be elected as President a month later. Mr L B Schnauer became the new Captain.

Arrangements were put in place to repay the members who had contributed to the Clubhouse, presumably from the subscriptions that flowed in when the Entrance Fee was dropped. Later in 1936 it was decided to investigate enlarging the men's lounge. This work was estimated to cost £225 which Morpeth offered to advance to the Club at an interest rate of 4½ % per annum, the

amount to be repaid by proceeds of the liquor and bottle fund. Typically the estimated cost of this work escalated to £360, and the gentlemen members were to be circulated for contributions towards the additional cost. To assist in this process it was decided that ten more men members be admitted, "the subscription from those members to be set aside for the specific purpose of liquidating the cost of the alterations."

During 1936 two members were nominated and endorsed by the Committee as Life Members. They were the current President, Mr J M Elliffe and Mrs N E Burton. At the March 1937 Annual Meeting which confirmed the Life Memberships, Mr L B Schnauer referred to the work undertaken by Elliffe as President and Captain of the Club, and Miss Haslett referred to the work undertaken by Mrs Burton as President and Captain of the ladies Club.

In August 1936 an exhibition match was played at Maungakiekie featuring the American professionals Gene Sarazen and Helen Hicks, the Australian amateur Jim Ferrier and the local professional Tom Galloway. The visitors had arrived in Auckland that morning on the Mariposa and after the match Ferrier boarded the ship again for the final leg of his trip back to Australia. Sarazen and Hicks stayed in New Zealand to give exhibition matches in other centres. At that stage of his career Sarazen had won 7 major titles and 27 other PGA tournaments. He went on to win four more PGA events on his return to America. Helen Hicks was regarded as the first ladies professional and worked in a promotional role for golf equipment manufacturers, there being no tournaments available for lady professionals at that time. Ferrier was a top Amateur player who subsequently became a successful professional in the United States, winning 18 PGA tournaments including one major, the PGA in 1947. Before turning professional he had won 10 professional tournaments in Australia as an amateur.

In October 1936 a sub-Committee comprising Messrs Elliffe, Morpeth, Schnauer and McOwan was appointed to interview the Cornwall Park trustees with respect to the Club's tenure. Unfortunately the minutes only refer to the fact that the interview took place and do not give us any clues as to the trustees' views in respect of the

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**Maungakiekie '9' Hole Ladies Club**

Club's tenure of the land. In July 1937 the trustees advised that as from 1<sup>st</sup> August the monthly rental of the course would increase to £41.13.4. This generated a further sub-Committee of Morpeth, Elliffe and Schnauer to have another interview with the trustees but unfortunately there is no record in the minutes as to what happened in that interview.

In 1937 it was decided that in the case where a hole in one was accomplished on the course, the Club would provide the refreshment to a fixed limit, and that the player should present a pewter mug with his name inscribed thereon, to the Club. Twenty five of these were ordered from Walker and Hall over three years at a cost of £1.1.0 each. A number of these mugs have been restored and can be viewed in the Clubhouse bar area.

Early in 1938 it was decided to purchase a cup for the Senior Championship. A few months later Walker and Hall presented a cup for the Intermediate Championship. It was also decided to increase the men's membership to 195.

Tom Galloway resigned as the Club's professional in May 1938 and was replaced by C. C. Clements, who resigned in April 1939 and was replaced by E. J. Moss, who was awarded the position ahead of 15 other applicants. By this time the Auckland Golf Association had been formed and the Club decided to affiliate with it.

At the 1938 Annual General Meeting of the ladies section of the Club it was resolved that the Committee take steps to have Miss Haslett made a Life Member. The Committee agreed and Miss Haslett was duly made a Life Member at the Annual General Meeting in March 1939. The summary of the Annual Report provided at this meeting rightly pointed out that over the last three years the Club's liabilities had been reduced by over £1000 and during that time £900 had been spent on capital improvements.

By 1939 New Zealand was becoming affected by the Second World War. Petrol restrictions led to the cancellation of some inter-Club matches, and the New Zealand Golf Council was encouraged to approach the Oil Controller in Wellington on this matter. The war also played a part in the result of the Elliffe Cup in 1939. J. Jerrat Junior was due to play J E Stedman in the final but was called up for service. It was decided that the two finalists should be bracketed and that a miniature should be presented to each. Sadly J E Stedman was later killed in an air crash during the War.

Hector Morpeth donated the Morpeth Bowl to the Club in 1939. This drawn pairs matchplay event is

still one of the most sought after trophies in the men's fixture book.

A good example of the lack of information appearing in the minutes is this entry from the October 1939 Committee meeting: "A letter was received from the Cornwall Park trustees and it was decided to refer the matter to the President and Captain for a suitable reply." One can only wonder what the letter was referring to. The tenure of the course is a possibility but at that time the trustees were also dealing with the issue of a large water reservoir which the Onehunga Borough Council wished to build on the 18<sup>th</sup> fairway. It seems likely that the letter was regarding the reservoir as this was one of three items discussed at a special Committee meeting a few weeks later. Unfortunately the minutes of that meeting are not helpful stating that the Captain had submitted a draft reply and it was decided that this should be forwarded to the trustees. One can only guess at what was really being discussed in this exchange of letters.

At the February 1940 Annual General Meeting the President referred to the Club's tenure of the property, stating that the trustees had been worried by comments made by some members of the Club and in order that members might understand the position and refrain from such comments in the future, read the correspondence between the trustees and the Committee. Perhaps that is what the earlier exchange of letters was about! The President also recommended to the incoming Committee that in order to improve the standard of play in the Club, the professional's retainer should be increased by £50 per annum and that each member should receive two free lessons.

In recognition of the role that the forces were playing in the war the Club allowed any member of the Forces to play on the course without payment of green fees. Any member of the Club called up for Naval, Military or Air service would be made an Honorary member of the Club without liability for subscription until his discharge from service. It was also decided that the profits of raffles and Sunday scrambles be donated to the New Zealand Golf Council's National Patriotic Fund. At the 1941 prize giving all members present donated their prizes (orders) to the Club's Patriotic Fund. However in view of the Fund's credit balance it was decided to write to the members expressing appreciation of their gesture but asking them to accept their orders.

Employing caterers at golf Clubs is not a task for the faint hearted as illustrated by the following

minutes of a special Committee meeting in April 1940:

"It was reported that Mrs Chivers had been offered the catering at Middlemore at a substantial increase on what she was receiving from us. After a full discussion the following resolutions were passed:-

- 1 That Mrs Chivers retainer be increased by £1 per week as from 1st May 1940.
- 2 That a new schedule of increased prices be arranged between Mrs Chivers and the Committee.
- 3 That a sub-Committee go into the matter of increased accommodation for Mrs Chivers and report to the next meeting of the Committee.
- 4 That Mrs Chivers have a free hand in the catering without interference from the Committee or members and that no member of the Committee or of the Club be permitted to enter the kitchen or Mrs Chivers quarters without her permission.
- 5 That the President and Captain meet the Ladies' President and Captain in connection with the affairs of the Ladies Club."

Those five resolutions appear to neatly highlight most of the issues that to this day surround the relationship between the caterer, the administrators and the members. The sub-Committee duly reported back to the next Committee meeting where it was decided to proceed with altering the Ladies' locker room to give an additional room for Mrs Chivers. This appeared to satisfy Mrs Chivers as she remained as the caterer until the Club was forced to leave Cornwall Park.

In February 1941 Mr Morpeth, reported that he did not intend to continue as President of the Club. In recognition of his outstanding service to the Club both as President and Captain, the Committee recommended that he be made a Life Member of the Club. This was confirmed by the March Annual General Meeting.

At the April 1941 Committee meeting Maughan's position as head Greenkeeper was discussed. The Greens Committee reported to the May meeting that "it was not desirable to retain the services of Maughan any longer, and it was decided to pay him one month's wages in lieu of notice. Unfortunately the reasons for this course of action are unknown, as to that time Maughan had enjoyed a good working relationship with the members, especially the members of the Ladies Club whose minute book regularly recorded satisfaction of his work and the giving of bonuses to him and his staff. Maughan's replacement as Head Greenkeeper was Mr H Hackett.

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**Maungakiekie Juniors**

**MAUNGAKIEKIE GOLF CLUB**  
ONE TREE HILL

PLAYER A. H. Gregor MEDAL 14 DATE 17/9/33  
HANDICAP 11 BOGEY 11

HOLES		Yards	Strokes agst bog.	BOGEY	PLAYER		SELF		HOLES		Yards	Strokes agst bog.	BOGEY	PLAYER		SELF	
					Strokes	+ Won / - Lost / 0 Half	Strokes	+ Won / - Lost / 0 Half						Strokes	+ Won / - Lost / 0 Half	Strokes	+ Won / - Lost / 0 Half
1	Mangere	0 380	7	45	-	5	5	0	10	The Turn	0 360	5	4	5	6	5	0
2	Campbell	+ 400	15	55	-	6	4	+	11	Boundary	226	3	3	3	5	4	0
3	Rocklands	0 179	9	34	5	4	4	0	12	Infant	0 133	18	33	-	5	3	0
4	The Drop	+ 123	17	35	4	4	3	0	13	Midfields	+ 312	12	45	5	5	4	0
5	Manukau	+ 333	10	45	5	5	4	+	14	Sentinels	243	16	44	5	5	5	-
6	Avenue	- 357	2	44			6	-	15	Cave	+ 435	1	56	6	7	5	+
7	Outlook	0 364	13	44	6	6	4	0	16	Ring Rocks	0 424	8	55	6	6	5	+
8	Terrace	+ 293	11	46	6	5	4	+	17	Grotto	0 266	14	45	5	5	5	-
9	Rangitoto	0 320	4	46	5	6	5	0	18	Home	+ 370	6	4				0
Out		2749	35				39		In		2769	36					41
Out									Out		2749	35					39
Total		5518	71						Total		5518	71					40
RESULT UP.....		2	SCRATCH SCORE OF COURSE 71		Deduct H'cap				REPLACE THE TURF		NET TOTAL						14
BOGEY DOWN.....																	166
SIGNATURE OF SCORER.....																	

THIS CARD MEASURES 6 INCHES ACROSS

1933 scorecard



Left to Right: Joe Pelham, Rex George, Gordon Bennett, Henry Tidmarsh and 'Mac' Elliffe



*Left to Right: H Morpeth, T Galloway,  
M Hughes and A Belcher*



*Ladies Opening Day 1931*



*Left to Right: Mesdames B Tuck, L Peglar, Grayden, B Kerr, E Nolan, A Walker, W Michael, G Laird,  
E Blackburn, A Patterson and HV Johnston - 1939*



*Front Entrance to Clubhouse 1930s*





*Opening Day 1931*



*A group of men, 1930s. 'Mac' Elliffe second from left, back row.*



*Some of the Competitors in the 1934 Kingswell Shield.*



*Tom Galloway and 'Don'*



*L to R: Gordon Stitchbury, Jim Earle,  
Len Vivian and Phil Whyman*





*Gene Sarazen's Exhibition Match, 1936. Campbell Road in the background.  
(Acknowledgement to the Evening Post collection and the Alexander Turnbull Library)*



*Sad times - Closing Day 1942  
L to R: Raoul Garrard, Don Gibbs, Gordon Bennett, Don McKay and Frank Wiseman*



*Winners, NZ Autumn Foursomes 1940: Miss Edna Schnauer and Miss Anne Grove*



*Mrs O Manning (Runner up) and E Blackburn (Winner of 1940 Ladies Championship)*

## Eviction from Cornwall Park...

**A**t the May 1941 Committee meeting a letter from the Cornwall Park trustees was discussed which “notified determination of the tenancy of the Trust’s lands as from 30<sup>th</sup> September 1946.” It was decided to acknowledge the letter and thank the trustees for their consideration. A decision was also made “that the whole question should be kept entirely in Committee and that members should not be notified until such time as the Committee considers it desirable.” A sub-Committee comprising L B Schnauer, J S Milne, J M Elliffe, H Morpeth and D G McFarlane was appointed to keep the position in view and also to consider the question of financing another property. Within a few months McFarlane was called to Military duties and was replaced on that sub-Committee by Mr A Belcher.

In his report to the March 1942 Annual General meeting the President Mr J S Milne, made a special appeal “to keep the Club going even if it means some personal sacrifices. It was the duty of all members to keep the course in such a condition that when members from overseas return it would not be difficult to bring it up to a high standard.”

The tenancy bombshell hit the Club in June 1942 when a letter was received from the Cornwall Park trustees giving the Club one month’s notice as from 1<sup>st</sup> July 1942. A special Committee meeting was called where it was decided that Messrs Milne and Elliffe should see the chairman of the Board and report back. Another special Committee meeting was held on the afternoon of 14<sup>th</sup> July to discuss their report, but unfortunately the minutes give no clue as to the contents of that report. The minutes do record that a further sub-Committee comprising Milne, Morpeth (no longer a Committee member) and Mr N J Kidd be appointed to take such steps as they consider necessary to enable the Club to retain its tenure, or otherwise deal with the question of compensation and arrangements for members to join other Clubs. At the regular Committee meeting later in the day a draft letter in reply to the trustee’s letter was discussed but it

was decided not to send it pending further developments.

It is clear that the representations made by the Club to the trustees during July 1942 were successful in giving the Club a small extension of the notice to leave Cornwall Park. At the Committee meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> of August Mr Kidd reported that the sub-Committee had met the trustees with the result that the Club had to accept definite notice cessation of the tenure as from the 31<sup>st</sup> October 1942. It was decided that an Extraordinary General Meeting of members be called for the 21<sup>st</sup> August, and to notify members of the cancellation of the tenure and to ask for a consideration of what further action should be taken.

Before the Extraordinary General Meeting took place the Committee met to discuss a proposal put forward by Morpeth, who considered that he could obtain an option on the shares of the company controlling the Remuera Golf Club. It was decided that Morpeth along with a Committee member, Mr G J Bennett, be authorised to proceed with obtaining the option for the Club on those shares.

The Extraordinary General Meeting was attended by 180 members. The President, Mr Milne, gave an outline of the dealings with the trustees up to their notice of the cancellation of tenure as from 31<sup>st</sup> October. Morpeth and others then spoke of the proposed scheme for fusion of the Maungakiekie and Remuera Golf Clubs, after which the following resolution was put to the meeting;

“That the arrangements for the fusion of the Maungakiekie Golf Club and the Remuera Golf Club on the terms outlined be approved by this meeting and the Committee is hereby empowered to carry out the arrangement.”

After much discussion on it the resolution was put to the meeting and carried without dissent.

Three days later the Committee met to discuss the legal situation regarding the tenure at One Tree Hill and the purchase of the Remuera Golf Club options. It is not clear whether the first item was referring to the action of the trustees or whether it was referring to the terms of the tenure that the Club held with the One Tree Hill Domain Board in respect of the Clubhouse land and buildings. In any event it was decided that no further action could be taken at this juncture. With regard to the Remuera options, Morpeth explained the conditions that would apply to that transaction, and after some discussion it was decided to hold over any action in that matter until a further sub-Committee had reported back on a possible proposal with the Akarana Golf Club.

Four days later, on 28<sup>th</sup> August, the Committee met again. With respect to the proposals put forward by the Akarana Club it was decided to defer consideration of this until a later date. Yet another sub-Committee was set up to obtain all the information and figures with reference to the proposed arrangements with Remuera.

The next meeting of the Committee was on 4<sup>th</sup> September. At that meeting it was decided to call a Special General Meeting of members to discuss the progress made on the various proposals. A letter from J M Elliffe in connection with the proposals was received, but again the minutes do not indicate its contents. In view of the leading role which Elliffe subsequently took in managing the exit of the Club from Cornwall Park it is assumed that the issues raised in his letter may not have been welcomed.

Another meeting of the Committee (also attended by Mr Morpeth) was held on 15<sup>th</sup> September where it was decided that a reply be sent to the trustees to their letter of the 10<sup>th</sup> August 1942, on the lines indicated to Mr Morpeth refuting the statement of the Chairman in the Press, that the executive of the Club realised the justice of the situation.

250 members attended the Special General Meeting which was held on 18<sup>th</sup> September 1942. Resolutions passed by the earlier Extraordinary General Meeting in respect of the Remuera arrangement were rescinded before Mr Elliffe successfully moved that negotiations in connection with the proposal to acquire the shares in the

Remuera Golf Company and to amalgamate with the Remuera Golf Club, be discontinued. He then successfully moved "that consideration of the remaining proposals be deferred until all the possibilities of retaining our tenure at the Hill have been fully exploited." Elliffe then basically took over the meeting by successfully moving the following resolutions;

(a) That this meeting of members of the Maungakiekie Golf Club records its strong protest against the action of the Cornwall Park trustees in terminating at short notice the tenancy of the Golf Course at One Tree Hill where in harmony with the expressed wish of the donor, Sir John Logan Campbell, golf has been played for the past 41 years.

(b) That as this is the first intimation the members of the Club have had of the resolution of the Trustees of the 10<sup>th</sup> August 1942 and as members feel that the deputation did not possess full power to bind the Club on that occasion, we earnestly and respectfully request the Trustees to reconsider their decision.

(c) This meeting of members of the Maungakiekie Golf Club strongly supports the public petition requesting the Trustees to carry out the publicly expressed wish of the donor of the park, Sir John Logan Campbell and retain portion of the Cornwall Park property as golf links in perpetuity. It confirms the appointment of a working Committee consisting of Misses M W Haslett, Ann Grove and Mr J P O'Connor, D L McKay, R W Verry, J B Grove, L J Poff, J M Elliffe, and authorises this Committee to expend up to £250.0.0 of the Club's funds in taking any steps considered necessary in endeavouring to protect the Club's tenancy at One Tree Hill.

(d) That the members of the General Committee be added to the above Committee.

It is clear that by this point the members had lost confidence in the manner in which the Committee had withheld important information from them and at the next Committee meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> September the President J S Milne, the Captain A N Hay, the Vice Captain C T Halstead and two Committee members G J Bennett and N J Kidd offered their resignations. At this meeting the Secretary was instructed to hand over to the Committee handling

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the Petition any correspondence that would assist them in helping to retain tenure of the course. In what could be seen as an act of defiance the Committee also decided to proceed with the Labour Day Tournament which was to be played less than a week before the eviction. The resignations were accepted with regret at the next Committee meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> October, the minutes of that meeting also referring to receipt of a letter from the Cornwall Park trustees. Again there is no indication as to the subject matter of that letter.

The final Special General Meeting in the eviction process was held on 29<sup>th</sup> October 1942. It attracted 200 members and was chaired by Mr J Jerrat, who reviewed the position of the Club from the time it received notice to quit Cornwall Park. Elliffe outlined the steps that the Petition Committee had taken, which had not persuaded the trustees to alter their previous decisions that the Club would have to vacate the course by 31<sup>st</sup> October. He then successfully moved the following resolution which set out the future policy for the Club;

“The Committee be authorised at its discretion to realise the Club’s assets and invest the monies so obtained in some form of easily realisable security. Present members to retain their membership for a nominal fee to be decided by the Committee and all members serving with the forces to automatically retain their membership. The Club to retain its

entity, select a Committee annually and at any time which is considered suitable call the members together for the purpose of acquiring property or any other purpose they may determine. The Committee be empowered to enter into such arrangements as it thinks fit with the Akarana Golf Club to play on the Akarana Golf Course.”

With the resignation of so many of the executive it was necessary to elect replacements to those positions. The following positions were filled at the Special Meeting:

President	J Jerrat
Vice-President	D McRae
Captain	R Verry
Vice-Captain	V Kirk
Committee	R T Postles, L J Poff, D L McKay

Four members of the former Committee were also prepared to continue to serve the Club. They were C F Rosser, J L Hanna, Miss E Schnauer and Mrs Steele.

SAVE CORNWALL PARK  
SAVE CORNWALL PARK  
GOLF LINKS  
GOLF LINKS

Help Preserve One of Auckland's Oldest  
Playing Fields.

SIGN THE PETITION  
SIGN THE PETITION

TO THE CORNWALL PARK TRUSTEES — SIR JAMES GUNSON, MESSRS.  
ALBERT: E. BOLLARD, JAMES HALL and F. A. HELLABY.

The Petition is Sponsored by the following  
Committee of Representative Citizens:

J. A. C. ALLUM, ESQ., Mayor of Auckland (Chairman).  
I. J. GOLDSTINE, ESQ., Mayor of One Tree Hill.  
J. PARK, ESQ., Mayor of Onehunga.

SIR CARRICK ROBERTSON, SIR ALBERT ELLIS, MESSRS. G. W.  
HUTCHISON, WM. GOODFELLOW, A. EISDELL MOORE, GEO. M. SMITH,  
D. M. RAE, J. P. O'CONNOR and J. M. ELLIFFE.

IMPORTANT POINTS

- CORNWALL PARK WAS GIVEN BY THE LATE SIR J. LOGAN CAMPBELL AS A PLACE OF PUBLIC RECREATION AND ENJOYMENT FOR THE PEOPLE.
- DR. CAMPBELL, IN OFFICIALLY OPENING THE CORNWALL GOLF LINKS, SAID BY THE CONDITION OF THE GIFT THE COURSE WOULD BE HANDED DOWN TO POSTERITY AS A LINKS FOR ALL TIME.
- DURING THE PAST 12 YEARS ALONE OVER £30,000 HAS BEEN EXPENDED BY THE GOLF CLUB IN MAINTAINING THE COURSE.
- THE GOLF CLUB PAYS THE TRUSTEES A RENTAL OF £500 PER YEAR.
- AFTER 41 YEARS' TENANCY THE TRUSTEES HAVE NOW GIVEN THE CLUB FOUR MONTHS TO VACATE.

All Citizens Are Invited To

SIGN THE PETITION  
SIGN THE PETITION

At the Following Places:—

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AND ALL GOLF CLUBS.

*The unsuccessful petition to allow Maungakiekie to stay at Cornwall Park  
attracted 9138 responses*



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# The Trustees Judgement...

**T**o close off this unfortunate chapter in the Club's history it would be pertinent to quote the trustees view of the situation as published in the NZ Herald. It is a very long and finely crafted view which does introduce what appears to be a lot of irrelevant material which may cause the reader to wonder what the real reason was for the suddenness of the eviction. For instance a section of the trustees' judgement goes into precise details which correct the Club's view of the length of time that golf had been played continuously on Cornwall Park. While that is interesting information one can surely doubt that the final outcome would have been any different if back in 1909 Percy Kingswell had also been able to secure the lease of the area of Cornwall Park that had formerly been part of the Auckland Golf Club's course.

Regardless of that it had been obvious for many years that the Club was never going to achieve anything better than a one year tenancy of the course, and in more recent times the trustees had indicated that at some stage they would be reclaiming the course to further develop Cornwall Park.

The decision of the Cornwall Park Trustees that the Maungakiekie Golf Club's tenancy of an area of park and endowment land must terminate at the end of this month, is not to be varied. Their considered reply was given yesterday to a deputation which presented a petition, bearing 9138 names, praying that the golf Club be permitted to continue its occupation.

The deputation consisted of Messrs J.A.C. Allum, Mayor of Auckland, I. J. Goldstine, Mayor of One Tree Hill, J. Park, Mayor of Onehunga, M. H. Wynyard, Chairman of the One Tree Hill Domain Board, and W. E. Lewisham and J. M. Elliffe, members of the golf Club. The Cornwall Park Trustees, Sir James Gunson, and Messrs A. E. Bollard, James Hall and F. A. Hellaby, were all present

## Representative Petition

The deputation having been introduced by Mr. Allum, Mr. Elliffe presented the petition, pointed out the widely representative character of its signatories, and read a statement reiterating and elaborating the contentions already made public. In this it was argued that it was the intention of the donor of the park, Sir John Logan Campbell, that golf was one form of recreation that should be catered for. Mention was made of the fact that the trustees in 1934 had granted a 40 years lease of a portion of the property to the Agricultural and Pastoral Association. The growing shortage of playing fields in Auckland was emphasised. Point was made of the fact that adjoining the golf area there was the One Tree Hill Domain of 121 acres, and it was contended that the golf Club had received the approval of the trustees in its expenditure on development. There would be no opposition if the land was required for military purposes.

Mr Goldstine said the aim of the petition had the support of hundreds of residents of the borough of One Tree Hill, and he suggested that there was sufficient land in the park for recreation purposes apart from that used by the golf Club.

Mr Wynyard said the domain provided a large area for picnic and recreational purposes. His board received from the golf Club a revenue of £110 a year for part of the area occupied by the Clubhouse.

## More Playing Facilities Needed

Mr Allum spoke of the great curtailment of public reserves, and of the urgent need for increased recreational facilities for the services.

Mr Park said that the general consensus of opinion among citizens was that unless the golf course land was required for military purposes the golf Club should not be required to give it up. Residents of Onehunga living in the vicinity were fully conscious of the golf course as a public amenity.



The submission of Mr Lewisham was that the players in addition to taking exercise, "lived for the hill," and through the Club, more people realised the intention of the donor than in any other way.

Sir James Gunson said that through the courtesy of Mr Elliffe, the trustees had been supplied with a copy of his statement and they had spent 10 days deliberating upon it. After a brief consultation with his fellow trustees he said they agreed that what had just been said was elaboration and did not affect the judgement, which was as follows:-

#### **Trustees Attitude**

The instructions for the development of Cornwall Park, which have come down to the present Trustees from the donor, provide for an avenue, described on the plans as the "Grand Avenue", extending through the Park lands from Market Road, around the northern and eastern slopes of One Tree Hill itself, through the land at present used for golf, to Queen Street, Onehunga. Few who have seen the first development of this avenue in the Puriri Drive from the Statue to Green Lane will disagree that it will, when complete be a distinctive and valuable addition to the amenities of the city and suburbs.

The avenue has been completed from the statue of Sir John Logan Campbell at Market Road, across Green Lane as far as the car park below the kiosk. In 1934 it was planted from this point up to the boundary of the golf land; the alignment there divides the present golf area and emerges in Campbell Road opposite Queen Street, Onehunga. A considerable part of the land to the east of this alignment is held by the trustees with powers for the endowment of the trust; the area to the west is held for the general purposes of the trust.

#### **Golf Club's Tenancy**

From the time of the creation of the trust in 1901 revenues not devoted to the development of the endowment land have been employed principally by the trustees in the construction and planting of the avenue and the contiguous lands east and north of One Tree Hill, with the object of the ultimate completion of the drive in accordance with the donors wishes. The golf Club remained in occupation only because

the trustees have been able on other areas of the park to meet public requirements and were not ready to develop the avenue through the land in occupation by the golf Club.

In 1941 the trustees concluded that the time was approaching when consideration could be given to the planting for the avenue over the golf area. Accordingly by letter dated the 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1941 the Club was informed that its occupation of the land must terminate not later than September 1946. Such lengthy notice was given entirely out of consideration for the Club in order to give it ample opportunity to provide elsewhere for its members. It was expressly stated in the letter the such notice was not intended to create any additional right of tenancy than that which it then had, namely that of a mere occupier, and that circumstances might compel an earlier termination.

#### **Unexpected Events**

During recent months unexpected events have taken place at Cornwall Park. On the 9<sup>th</sup> April 1942 a Government Gazette Notice was published making practically all Cornwall Park lands, except the area now occupied by the Club, a prohibited area. The Government were already in occupation of two thirds of the developed land, and the public excluded. In June last the trustees were informed in conference with responsible Ministers of the Crown that comprehensive proposals were afoot which would involve further areas of the trust lands. The trustees therefore felt compelled to terminate the Club's tenancy and thereupon gave the Club one month's notice. At the end of the month, however, no further action had been taken against the lands. The president of the Club asked if it might continue with its play in the meanwhile, and to this request the trustees assented readily. In July the Club asked the trustees to receive a deputation, and having this meeting in view, the trustees asked the Government authorities, following the trustees' conference in Auckland with Honourable Ministers of the Crown, to say, if possible, when and to what extent the trust lands were required, and received a reply stating that additional areas were in fact required and would be taken. This has since been confirmed.

The difficult question confronting the trustees

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at this stage was whether the trustees might permit the golf Club to remain in exclusive possession of the golf area under these changed circumstances in which the trustees had for an indefinite period lost control of much of the park, and the public had been denied the use of most of Cornwall Park. In consideration of this difficult question the trustees had for guidance counsel's opinion given when kindred matters were under discussion. Mr Thomas Cotter, K.C. in 1912 advised:-

“As I have said, these powers seem to me to be ample to enable the trustees to practically carry out whatever they desire with regard to the property, subject always to their keeping within the main object and purpose of the trust, which is to administer the same so that the public as a whole and not any particular or selected portion thereof shall have the benefit and advantage of the property.”

At the time Mr Cotter's opinion was obtained, the then trustees probably felt that the circumstances did not compel them to carry into effect immediately the advice given to them by counsel. The circumstances now, however, are radically different and the trustees consider that they are bound to perform their duty in the manner in which counsel has indicated.

#### **Duty to the Public**

Quite apart, however, from the legal responsibility as set out in the above opinion, the trustees consider that they would not be acting prudently or fairly to the public as a whole in permitting the golf Club, in circumstances entirely beyond the control of the trustees, to remain in possession of the only portion of Cornwall Park available to the public. It was for this reason that the trustees decided that it was their duty to open the golf Club lands. The deputation which met the trustees on the 10<sup>th</sup> August last was so informed, and at the request of, and by agreement with the deputation, which consisted of the accredited representatives of the Club, the trustees resolved that the golf Club should be given up to the 31<sup>st</sup> October next to vacate the area. The trustees are aware that their decision must cause keen disappointment to the members of the Club, but the public interest is paramount and the trustees must now open the land for all who choose to use it.

By letter dated the 23<sup>rd</sup> September 1942, from the secretary, the Club repudiated the action of their representatives in agreeing to vacate the land on the 31<sup>st</sup> October next.

#### **Petitioners and Club**

We now move to matters specifically raised in the petition. You, as petitioners, go very much further than the Club itself has ever gone. You not only ask the trustees to give favourable consideration to the request of the golf Club to remain in continued occupation, but you speak of the golf course being retained “in perpetuity.” Now, insofar as you seek on behalf of the Maungakiekie Golf Club to secure to that Club some perpetual exclusive right or privilege over the lands of Cornwall Park, the trustees regret their duty compels them to refuse any such request. Cornwall Park is a public park held by the trustees under deeds, by which wide powers are conferred upon them, for the people of New Zealand. Nothing can or will be done by the trustees to create a privilege in favour of any one person or group of persons to the detriment or exclusion of the public. The trustees have been at pains, during the period of the Club's occupation to prevent any doubt arising in the minds of members of the Club as to the nature of their occupation and to avoid any possible suggestion that their continued occupation conferred some sanction or right over the land, and those responsible for the conduct of the golf Club are well aware of this position. In 1934 correspondence passed between the Club and the trustees; in 1936 a deputation from the Club waited upon the trustees, requesting a fixity of tenure, when the trustees made it clear that such could not be granted. Again, in 1939, in response to a communication from the trustees, the Club wrote (inter alia) to the trustees in the following terms:-

#### **Club's Understanding**

“The occupancy of the area by the golf Club under a rental arrangement with the trustees was granted in the first place and has since been continued for some years by the trustees for what it is worth, and always with the reservation of the rights and obligations to the trustees and to the public, and such arrangement may be ended at the instance of the trustees if and when the trustees require that part of the park for development purposes or for any more general public use than at present required.”

“The position as set forth above had always been understood and appreciated by the Committee and the office-bearers of the Club, and it is purely an oversight on our part that no written acknowledgement by us has been delivered to the trustees.”

The purpose of this correspondence was to prevent the very thing which is happening today. You, as petitioners for the Club, advance as an argument for consideration the fact that golf has been played over this and the adjoining areas for 41 years, and that large sums of money have been spent. In the first place the trustees cannot consider these arguments relevant, in view of the clarity with which the trustees have stated from time to time the insecurity of the Club’s position, and in the second place the statement as to the period of the Club’s occupation requires clarification.

#### **Occupation by the Club**

The Maungakiekie Club first became a tenant of the trustees in 1912, in respect of an area of 36 ½ acres, being part of the present golf area. In 1925 the Club, with the consent of the trustees, occupied an additional area of 49 ½ acres, these two areas – less about four acres – form the links today. It will be seen, therefore, that the Club has been in occupation of a portion of the area for 30 years and of the whole area for 17 years.

We now refer to the words reported in the press to have been used by Sir John Logan Campbell. It is important that those concerned in this matter should inform themselves of the circumstances under which these words were spoken. Sir John was then speaking at the opening of the Auckland Golf Club, not the Maungakiekie Club, and he was speaking on the One Tree Hill Domain, not Cornwall Park, the area now in question. The golf links at that time were substantially on the One Tree Hill Domain, and not on Cornwall Park. The Auckland Club were tenants only of the area of 36 acres of the Park. In 1908 Sir John transferred to the trustees for endowment purposes part of the 36 acres then occupied by the Auckland Club, and the avenue to which we have referred is shown in the plans signed by the donor traversing the area at present occupied by the Maungakiekie Golf Club.

When the Auckland Golf Club in 1909 were required to move elsewhere because their occupation of the Domain was incompatible with the public interest, Sir John took no action, nor did he express any intention or desire to have golf re-established on Cornwall Park.

#### **Difficulties Repeated**

The Auckland Golf Club was much in the same difficulties then as the Maungakiekie Club is today. Sir John was present at a meeting of the One Tree Hill Domain Board, at which the Auckland Golf Club made its last unsuccessful representations. We set out the material portion of a letter dated the 14<sup>th</sup> October 1909, from Mr Wallace Bruce, as secretary at that time of the Auckland Golf Club, written to Sir John Logan Campbell, in which the Club accepted with good grace the inevitability of their abandonment of the One Tree Hill – Cornwall Park course.

“It is with feelings akin to sorrow that the golf Club have had to vacate these beautiful and historic grounds, but as you will remember, being yourself present at the meeting of the One Tree Hill Domain Board when a deputation from the Auckland Golf Club waited upon the board, it was plainly and unmistakably intimated to us that on account of the requirements of the public for more ground for recreation purposes and also on account of the danger to the public we could only be allowed permission to stay there until such time as we were able to enter into possession of the property which had then been acquired subject to a lease at Otahuhu. ‘We shall probably soon get used to the new circumstances, but we will never forget the happy times at One Tree Hill.’”

#### **Auckland Club’s Withdrawal**

Sir John Logan Campbell thus witnessed the withdrawal of the Auckland Club he opened in 1901, when the words quoted by you were spoken; thereafter he gave the Club his patronage in its new home at Middlemore, Otahuhu. You, as petitioners, in your references to the words spoken on One Tree Hill Domain by the donor of Cornwall Park, are placing an unwarranted emphasis on them and are asking the trustees of Cornwall Park to

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**Jim Christian, Life Member**

take from those words a meaning and intention which Sir John himself in his lifetime, did not act upon. After the departure of the Auckland Club that part of Cornwall Park which had been in occupation by the golfers was leased for grazing purposes. The Maungakiekie Club did not appear as a tenant of the trust until two years later.

In 1901, when Sir John Logan Campbell made the original gift, the lands were leased and had been leased for many years for grazing. This continued over much of the park for the remainder of Sir John's lifetime. Sir John died in 1912. As the years passed the trustees progressively ended these tenancies. For the necessary maintenance of those portions of the park still remaining as pasture lands, the trustees grazed both sheep and cattle, and still do so, with an incidental but considerable benefit to the funds of the trust; yet primarily for maintenance purposes, thereby imparting a pleasant rural prospect – pleasing to the public. Over these areas the public has always had access, facilities therefore being provided to and over the lands – as more and more of the park becomes developed, coupled with the growth of Auckland and the expanding needs of the people of New Zealand for public recreation areas, this practice may be expected to diminish and eventually end. The trustees have had plans, the carrying out of which has been unavoidably suspended, for further provision of children's playing areas and for other proposals to meet the increasing recreation needs of the people as a whole, who are the beneficiaries of the wonderful gift and public spirit of the "Father of Auckland."

#### **Paramount Obligation**

We would assure you that your submissions have been given the most earnest consideration by the trustees. Neither the trustees' appraisal of their duty nor their assessment of public requirements, even so far as such can be provided for in present circumstances, would be met by allowing this golf Club to remain. The trustees are convinced that their paramount obligation is to determine themselves their duty under their trusteeship and to perform that duty prudently in the words of counsel previously quoted, viz., "for the public as a whole and not for any particular or selected portion thereof" rather than that the trustees should by any particular place themselves in the position of having to be directed in their duty.

For the reasons which the trustees have set forth in this memorandum, they regret that they cannot accede to your request, and accordingly they confirm the notice given to the Club under which the tenancy of the Club will cease on the 31<sup>st</sup> instant.

#### **General Information**

In conclusion, it may not be inappropriate to advise for more general public information:-

- (1) That from the time of the commencement of the trust in 1901 for a number of years the trustees were unable to undertake any measures for the development of the park lands, but were obliged to apply all available trust funds to the development of the endowment lands for the purpose of securing revenues to the trust. The chief of such works may be seen in Maungakiekie Avenue. The opening up of that avenue and other roads was followed quickly by the subdivision and leasing of the endowment properties enjoying a frontage to these roads. These endowments were not in the original gift, but were subsequent gifts by Sir John Logan Campbell, by which he greatly strengthened the trust.
- (2) By the year 1926 revenues had accumulated sufficiently to enable a commencement to be made with the development and opening up of the park land more fully to the public. Old tenants were of necessity dispossessed, and a policy of park development undertaken.
- (3) The planting and construction of the Grand Avenue and the layout and maintenance of contiguous areas has been the first care of the trustees since 1926. Extensive shelter belts have been established successfully; these have changed windswept lands to a sheltered condition and created a warm climate well adapted to general development and further public use and enjoyment of the park. As indicated earlier in this statement, a considerable section of the avenue has been completed, and it is intended to proceed with it as circumstances permit. With the completion of the Grand Avenue the vision which Sir John Logan Campbell had in his magnificent gift will be realised to a great degree.
- (4) After November 1 next that portion of the park and endowment lands at present constituting the golf area will be open to the public as a whole for their use and enjoyment, but subject to such by-laws and control as may be requisite from time to time.

## Life After Eviction...

**N**o time was wasted by the new executive which had its first meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 1942. A sub-Committee was set up to arrange an agreement with the Akarana Golf Club which would allow Maungakiekie members to play there. Arrangements were made for the sale of the Club's machinery with the gang mower and tractor being offered to the Air Force and the rest of the maintenance equipment to be auctioned at the tool shed. Miss Schnauer and Mrs Steele were given the task of deciding what articles in the Clubhouse should be kept and which should be sold, while a sub-Committee was set up to interview the One Tree Hill Domain Board in connection with the realisation of the Clubhouse.

Mrs Chivers was given one month's notice with an additional 2 months retainer in appreciation of her services to the Club. She was allowed to remain in the Clubhouse until the end of the year subject to any arrangements made for its disposal. The professional, Moss, was given one month's notice with an additional one month's retainer, and efforts would be made to find a position for him under the terms of the Akarana agreement. The Head Greenkeeper was to be given two months wages and his staff two weeks wages from the date they ceased employment with the Club. The Secretary, Mr Garrard, would be kept on, with a salary review when the arrangements with Akarana commenced, and it was also decided to endeavour to make some rebate of subscriptions for the balance of the season for members joining other Clubs, again subject to the Akarana agreement. Most importantly it was decided to hold a social evening in the Clubhouse later in November when the men's trophies would be presented.

Three more Committee meetings were held during November and December 1942. The Cornwall Park trustees advised that the plant could be removed at any time before the end of the month. They later extended this time to the 31<sup>st</sup> March 1943. A legal opinion was sought on the question of compensation from the trustees but the advice received was that the Club had no legal grounds for compensation. The draft agreement with

Akarana was endorsed by a Special General Meeting of that Club and subsequently approved by Maungakiekie subject to an amendment with respect to the annual election of the Control Committee. In view of this agreement it was decided that the rebate for members joining other Clubs should not be considered further, as the Club had provided a course for them at Akarana. Advice was received from the One Tree Hill Domain Board that they had made a proposal to the Minister of Lands regarding the disposal of the Clubhouse.

It is worth noting that in the six months following the initial notice to vacate Cornwall Park 18 meetings of either the Committee (including General Meetings) were held. When the numerous sub-Committee meetings held over that period are also taken into account it is clear that an enormous amount of work was put in by many people who had the best interests of the Club at heart. Club spirit of this nature has always been one of Maungakiekie's strengths.

1943 saw the return of the normal routine of one Committee meeting each month. At the January meeting it was decided to take no action regarding the tenancy of Mrs Chivers until the position of the lease was determined. This may not have been a good decision because a year later Mrs Chivers was still living in the Clubhouse and refusing to leave, legal measures being necessary to force her to vacate the property. This was delaying the leasing of the Clubhouse to the American Red Cross who were to pay the Club £6.10.0 per week rental. Moss's position at Akarana was considered and he was advised that Akarana wished him to adhere to the conditions with respect to all professionals. It is assumed that those conditions relate to a visiting professional being welcome at the convenience of the resident professional. Under the agreement with Akarana Messrs Verry and Garrard and Miss Schnauer were elected as members of the Control Committee to hold office until the incoming Committee was elected.

# MAUNGAKIEKIE GOLF CLUB

## *Purchase of Land for New Course*

Dear Fellow Member,

At a largely attended and enthusiastic meeting of members held on the 16th instant it was unanimously decided to purchase a property for a new golf course.

The property which comprises 145 acres has been inspected by many members and several experts, and all are enthusiastic that it possesses great potential value as a golf course. It is situated between Richardson Road and Ridge Road, Mt. Roskill, and its nearest point is within 100 yards of the intersection of Richardson Road and Dominion Road Extension. It is one mile from the present tram terminus and 5½ miles by concrete road from the centre of the city. There is a bus service almost to the property, and it is anticipated that this will be greatly improved in the near future.

The greater part of the land, over 75 acres, is greatly undulating from Ridge Road with a warm northerly aspect and on this portion most of the golf course will be formed. From Richardson Road the land slopes rather more steeply, facing the south west with an excellent site for a club house from which there is a splendid panoramic view of the surrounding country and portion of the Manukau Harbour. Every hole and fairway will be visible from the Clubhouse. The course will be well protected, warm and sunny with natural drainage. The property has many natural features and it is believed that an excellent golf course, full of interest without being too severe for the average player can be developed.

Your committee has already started work on the development of the property and is arranging to plant shelter belts of trees along the southern boundary. All of the property has been ploughed and farmed for many years and much of it is well grassed and can be brought into good fairway with comparatively little work. Some portions have been allowed to go back and the gorse will require to be cleared. It is proposed to obtain the best expert advice on the course lay-out and as soon as this is decided upon, trees, preferably native, will be planted. Other plans for developing and beautifying the property are under consideration and it is hoped that the course will be open for play in the Autumn of 1945. There is a substantial area which will not immediately be required and some of this is suitable for subdivision. If sufficient finance is available, however, it is not proposed to dispose of this, but to retain most of it with the object of later providing a subsidiary course or otherwise utilising it for the benefit of members.

FINANCE.—The property has been secured on a very favourable basis. The total price is £7,500, just under £52 per acre, which is exceptionally low for land in such close proximity to the city. The Club has £2,500 in hand and the Bank has granted an overdraft of £5,000 at 4% interest. It is estimated that the formation of the course, meeting current expenses and providing temporary club house accommodation will cost at least £3,500 and members are invited to subscribe to an issue of debentures to meet this expenditure. These debentures will bear interest at 4% per annum, which if desired may be credited towards payment of subscription. They will have a currency of five years after which a proportion will be redeemed each year. No special security can be given for the debentures, but they will constitute a loan to the Club and the money will be spent in improving the property and providing facilities. Already a substantial sum has been promised by members, both men and women, in sums ranging from £500 to £25. We hope that every member will participate in this loan to the Club, although we realise that the financial resources and obligations of each member differ. The amount which can be expended in improving and developing the property will depend on your response, and we appeal for your sympathetic consideration. If desired the amount promised may be spread over a period up to two years.

We believe we have a great opportunity to carry on the traditions of Maungakiekie and provide an urgently needed amenity for the city. There is an acute shortage of golf courses in Auckland and there will be no lack of members. We have an excellent property, readily accessible, with great possibilities and with your co-operation we believe we can provide a course and later club house facilities which will compare favourably with any in Auckland. Will you please fill in the attached form for as much as you can spare for this purpose.

Yours faithfully,

J. JERRAT, President.

R. T. POSTLES, Captain.

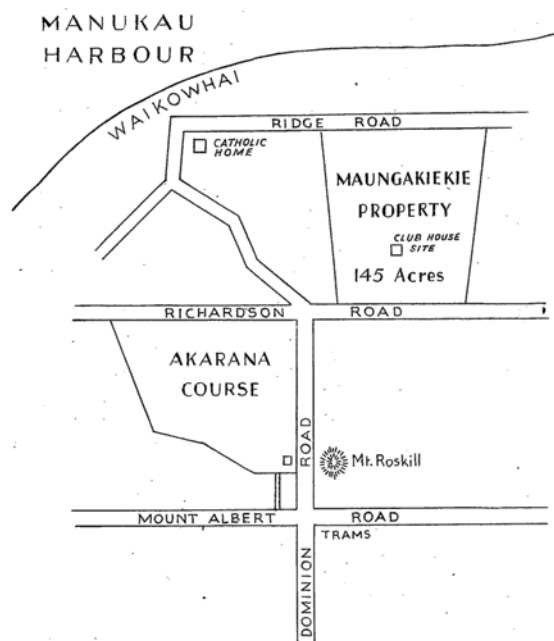
J. M. ELLIFFE, Appeal Organiser.

P.O. Box 117,  
Auckland.

September 20th, 1943.

### LOCALITY PLAN

Not to scale.



*Letter to the Members regarding the purchase of land for the new course.*

# Finding a New Home...

**A**t the July Committee meeting a sub-Committee was set up to investigate a property that had been offered to the Club, and also to make investigations with respect to other properties. The sub-Committee reported to the September Committee meeting that it had inspected several properties which had been found to be unsuitable, but had seen a property which appeared suitable in Richardson and Ridge Roads, Mt Roskill. Elliffe (who was not a member of the Committee or the sub-Committee, but who was regularly invited to the Committee meetings) had taken Bert Cooke of the Titirangi Golf Club over the property, which Cooke considered was quite suitable for the Club's purpose, stating that a good golf course could be established there. Cooke is best remembered for his key role in implementing the McKenzie plan at Titirangi. Valuations of the property were received and a sub-Committee was set up to investigate means of financing its purchase.

By September firm offers of £3,500 for the Richardson Road block and £4000 for the Ridge Road block had been lodged. The two properties had a total area of 145 acres. Finance had been arranged for an overdraft of £5,000 and it was intended to issue debentures without security to members for at least £3,000, the estimated amount required to bring the course into working order. These proposals were put before a Special General Meeting attended by 100 members on 16<sup>th</sup> September and were accepted.

The focus of the Club was now on creating a golf course on its new property. Members were asked to contribute towards the debentures, tenders were to be called for clearing gorse, the New Zealand Golf Association was asked if they could provide information with respect to a golf architect, and a Social Committee was set up to raise money by way of raffles and social evenings. Clearing of the whole property could not however,

proceed immediately as one of the inherited tenants was reluctant to leave. Elliffe in the meantime had contacted Sloane Morpeth in Melbourne and an Australian golf architect Eric Apperly in Sydney, and at the October Committee meeting he read letters that he had received from both men. A sub-Committee comprising the Captain R T Postles, the Vice-Captain L J Poff the Secretary R Garrard and Elliffe was set up to go into the matter. Although not recorded in the minutes their recommendation led to an exchange of cablegrams between the Club and Charles Alison of Colt Alison & Morrison, an internationally renowned firm of golf course architects. Rather than attempt to summarise that correspondence between the Club, Morpeth and Alison, the relevant letters and cablegrams are reproduced below to provide the reader with an insight of how a golf course can be designed in wartime conditions by a golf architect who never visited New Zealand.

## **Letter dated 13 October 1943 from Sloane Morpeth to Jim Elliffe;**

Dear Mr Elliffe,

I was so pleased to receive your letter and naturally I am delighted to be of any assistance to you and your old Club.

I can never forget your many kindnesses and courtesies and, also, the many considerations I always received from the members of Maungakiekie and Titirangi Golf Clubs.

It was very sad losing your course. I am fortunate enough to receive "Golf Illustrated" each month, which keeps me in touch with all golfing news in New Zealand.

With regard to the new property which you have acquired for the purpose of making another course, I find it rather difficult to advise, by reason of the fact that I do not

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know the amount of money you are prepared to spend.

I am going to speak very frankly as to my candid opinions, but I must ask that such opinions must not be quoted, as in my position one has to be extremely discreet. I fully appreciate that this letter would possibly be placed before a Committee or sub-Committee, but I know I can rely on you that the contents would be treated in confidence.

There are some very outstanding golf courses in Australia, and Melbourne courses are far superior to many others, both in construction and design. Please don't think I be bigoted when I say this, for such is the case.

The latest course to be made in Melbourne is one known as Huntingdale Golf Club, and the plans were made by an architect, C. H. Alison, of England. He did not visit Australia, but a complete survey of the property in regard to drainage and topography was forwarded to him and the result obtained is an excellent championship course.

I feel some members of your Committee would immediately deride such a suggestion and say it was quite impossible for the course to be laid out without the architect having been on the spot and seen the property. I assure you that it can be done, but I am not in a position to state at what cost. I am confident that Alison's fees would run into hundreds of pounds, plus your own survey costs.

He would give you a complete plan for each fairway and hole; then again you would have to get someone to interpret these plans and oversee the actual construction work, which, of course, would be the essence of the whole scheme.

Alex Russell, of Melbourne, has been responsible for laying out some very excellent Melbourne courses, but I fear his services would not be available at the present time, by reason of his war work.

Eric Apperly, of Sydney, has laid out several Sydney courses, and I am very glad to note that you have written to him, because he would be in a better position to advise you in regard to fees than I am.

At the moment I am unable to advise you of any other architects in Australia who would be available at the present time.

I note that the property you have acquired is somewhat similar to Titirangi. In my

opinion the constructional work at Titirangi was an excellent piece of work.

Constructional work in sand is much easier than in clay and, of all the clay courses I have seen, no constructional work compares with Titirangi.

I know that Rotorua is verging on sand and pumice, and no one will deny that the actual course, in design and construction, compares more than favourably with any course in New Zealand.

If you care to write to Alison asking for an estimate of charges, it perhaps would do no harm if you mentioned my name as Secretary of the Australian Golf Union. Also mention Huntingdale Golf Club, Melbourne, and that the course was laid out in entire accordance with his plans and the result is an excellent one. Bear in mind his costs may be prohibitive.

His address is C. H. Alison, C/- Colt, Alison and Morrison Limited, St Amands, East Hendred, Wantage, Berkshire.

In regard to literature, I have not any modern book, but the best book I have ever read on the subject is "The Architectural Side of Golf" by H. N.

Wethered and T Simpson, published in 1929. There may be more modern books procurable in New Zealand, but I don't think we have any in Australia, not that I know of.

If this book is not available to you, I would be only too glad to forward you my copy and I await your wish in this matter.

I don't know the names of the books that Bert Cook worked on at Titirangi, but I feel that possibly this one is more modern.

If there is any way in which I can help, I trust you will let me know.

Golf Clubs are weathering the storm very well in Australia, and there is no doubt we are an extremely lucky country.

Kindest regards to you all

Yours Faithfully

Sloane Morpeth

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8<sup>th</sup> May 1944.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of February 18th, I welcome with enthusiasm my first opportunity to design, even though at long range, a golf course in New Zealand.

Dealing with the points raised in your letter:-

Construction in clay. As Mr. Morpeth says, this is much more difficult than in sand. There are, however, far more courses on clay than on sand, and some of them have overcome their difficulties successfully. I am very interested to know that Titirangi is one of them. In any case, ease of access is a major point.

Desired quality of golf. Alternative tees. Almost all courses are maintained by and for indifferent or bad players, and all of them dislike lost balls, out of bounds, impossible carries, extreme severity in the nature of the rough and the hazards, and extreme length. In general, championship courses are very pleasant for everyone to play on, provided that suitable tees are used; so I do not think that we need be apprehensive about this.

Regarding tees, you will see that on the framework plan I have marked ten alternative tees at holes where they appear to be particularly necessary; but this is not intended to suggest that other tees will not be desirable. I am very glad to note that you will fix the ladies tees yourselves, and expect that in doing so you will automatically provide tees which will be useful for men as well. Owing to small irregularities in the ground it is easier to choose teeing-grounds on the spot.

Regarding maximum length, clubs and balls have changed a good deal since 1920, and in Great Britain and the U.S. a course of 6,470 yards would be considered very short for a championship. In these countries, however, championships unfortunately are played in summer. Bearing this in mind I do not think that 6,470 yards in your winter weather and on your soil would fall very far short of 7,000 yards at Hoylake on a hot day in June.

*The first page of Alison's initial seven page letter to the Club is reproduced above.  
Alison's layout plan is shown on the following page.*



# MAUNGAKIEKIE GOLF CLUB

NEW COURSE (MAY 1944)

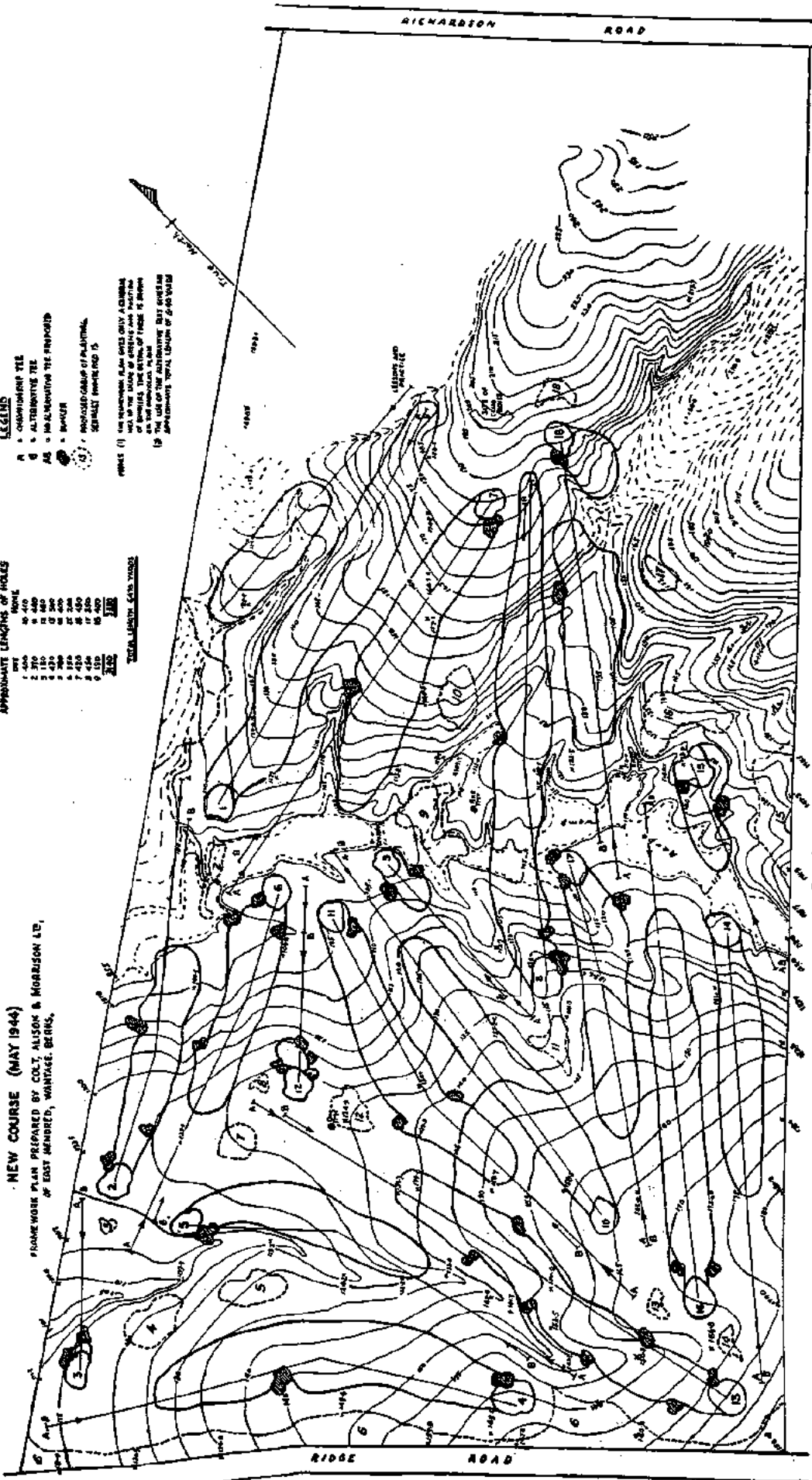
FLAOR WORK PLAN PREPARED BY COLT, ALISON & MORRISON LTD,  
OF EAST MERRICH, WARRAGE, BERKS.

## APPROXIMATE LENGTHS OF HOLES

NO.	YARDS
1	400
2	370
3	310
4	280
5	260
6	240
7	230
8	220
9	210
10	200
11	190
12	180
13	170
14	160
15	150
16	140
17	130
18	120
19	110
20	100
21	90
22	80
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95	10
96	10
97	10
98	10
99	10
100	10

TOTAL LENGTHS 6430 YARDS

- LEGEND**
- A. CHAMPIONSHIP TEE
  - B. ALTERNATIVE TEE
  - C. MAINTENANCE TEE
  - AS. MAINTENANCE TEE REMOVED
  - BUNKER
  - PROPOSED GRASS PLANTING
  - SPURST (NUMBERED 1-5)
- NOTES (1) THE PROPOSED PLAN SHOWS ONLY A COURSE  
 (2) THE PLAN IS BASED ON THE EXISTING AND PROPOSED  
 OF BUNKERS. THE EXISTING OF THESE IS SHOWN  
 (3) THE USE OF THE ALTERNATIVE TEE COURSE  
 APPROXIMATE TOTAL LENGTH OF 6430 YARDS



## Building the New Course...

**T**he years 1944 and 1945 proved to be very busy for the Club's executive. The new course was being constructed, machinery needed to be purchased, a Clubhouse needed to be provided, the former Clubhouse at One Tree Hill had to be disposed of, and all of this required considerable funding.

Clearing work and drainage on the new course continued through 1944. Alison dispatched his initial design for the new course to the Club on the 8<sup>th</sup> of May, followed on the 17<sup>th</sup> of May by an alternative scheme which included two holes to the north of the Clubhouse. Alison's fee of £250 was immediately cabled to him by the Club. An exchange of letters between the Club and Alison, some of which are reproduced below, followed, with the Club giving valuable feedback to Alison which led to significant modifications being made to the layout of the holes located in the area of the present 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> holes.

By the end of December 1944 the final layout had been agreed on, advice had been received from the Plant Research Bureau regarding the preparation of the new greens, and Bert Cooke had been engaged to supervise the final work on the greens preparatory to seed sowing. After October 1944 the construction work on the course was undertaken by the Head Greenkeeper Mr H Hackett, who was the last Head Greenkeeper at Cornwall Park and who had for the previous two years been working at Akarana on a temporary basis under the terms of the Club's agreement with that Club. A tractor and trailer were purchased along with a flamethrower and a set of discs. In December 1944 The Government notified the Club that it would purchase the One Tree Hill Clubhouse building for £2,500 with rental of £6.10.0 being paid to the Club up till settlement date. This was a good deal for the Club as the sub-Committee dealing with its disposal had been instructed to settle for a price in excess of £2,000.

Akarana were notified in April 1945 that Maungakiekie wished to terminate the agreement with that Club as from 31<sup>st</sup> January 1946. Akarana responded by offering to allow Maungakiekie members to play at Akarana until the opening of the 1946 season. The Jaggs Trophy, named after Akarana's first President, was presented to mark the spirit of co-operation between the two Clubs over this period and has been played for in most years since then.

In April 1945 working bees on two successive weekends saw 15 greens sown by the members, leaving the final three greens to be sown by the greens staff. Another working bee was held in September to clear the course of sticks preparatory to mowing. The new course opened for play on 27 April 1946, with the official opening to be fixed for a later date when the Clubhouse was completed.

While the work on the new course was underway enquiries were being made for the purchase of temporary buildings which could be used as a Clubhouse. A sub-Committee was set up to decide, along with the architect, a Mr Walker, what form of building could be used and to find out what buildings were available from the War Assets Realization Board. By May 1945 suitable Army buildings were becoming available for tender and it was decided that the Club should lodge a tender at a rate of approximately four shillings a square foot. This tender was accepted and the Club became the owner of two huts at a total cost of £895. By November 1945 work had commenced on converting the huts to a Clubhouse, this work appearing to have been completed in late 1946. In July 1946 the architect advised the Club that the contractor, Mr Stephen, was losing money on the contract and requested some compensation from the Club. It was decided that the matter be deferred until completion of settlement of the contract. By the time settlement was agreed in

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1948, Stephens had passed away and a sum of £1,000 was paid to his estate. A proposed formal opening of the Clubhouse by the Governor General does not appear to have eventuated.

A Special General Meeting in July 1945 authorised the subdivision of the Richardson Road frontage of the Club's property subject to the proviso that due regard be given for future subdivision of the whole golf course. By October arrangements had been made with the Housing Department for the sale of the frontage sections at a price of not less than £2,250.

In September 1945 Hector Morpeth, Life Member and former Captain and President offered to lend the Club £500 to purchase new gang mowers for the course. The Club was able to repay this loan in 1948. Back in 1936 Morpeth had also lent money to the Club to enable extensions to the One Tree Hill Clubhouse to be undertaken.

At the March 1946 Annual General Meeting it was decided that some form of memorial should be erected for members who gave their lives during the war. Later in the year it was agreed that the memorial be in the form of permanent shelters be built on the course, and these were duly built.

1946 saw Maungakiekie members enjoying a full season of golf on their own course for the first time in over three years. A tremendous amount of work had been undertaken in that time, firstly in keeping the membership together and secondly in securing land and creating a new course and Clubhouse facilities for the enjoyment of the members. Club championships, which had been put on hold since the eviction from Cornwall Park, resumed with F J (Fin) Parkinson winning the senior men's Championship from Joe Pelham. Mrs R H Manning won the ladies senior championship.

Over the previous three years schemes for planting trees on the course had been prepared but the Club had not been in a position to implement them. Back in 1943 C. F. (Sonny) Gardner had given the Club Pinus Signus trees which were planted on the Hillsborough Road boundary and in 1944 Elliffe had donated £10 towards the purchase of Pungas. The planting scheme was brought up at the March 1946 Annual General Meeting where members were told that owing to lack of finance the scheme would still have to be postponed. This resulted in a number of members pledging considerable sums to enable the planting to proceed. Subsequently a sub-Committee was formed and with much assistance

from the lady members the planting was accomplished.

In April 1946 Mr R T Postles resigned as Captain. At the meeting that was held to consider his replacement it was decided that Jim Elliffe be elected as Captain, subject to his approval. At the same meeting the Secretary D R (Raoul) Garrard tendered his resignation, which on a majority vote was not accepted. This was followed by further majority votes, the first disbanding the Greens Committee and the second appointing Garrard as Course Superintendent subject to the withdrawal of his resignation. It is clear that at this time there were tensions among the executive but the reasons for these are not known.

A sub-Committee was set up in August 1946 to go into the matter of Life Members and to report back to the Committee. At the September meeting it was decided that for special services rendered to the Club, Messrs J Jerrat, L J Poff, J L Hanna and D R Garrard be elected as Life Members. It was also recommended that one of the ladies should be elected a Life Member and the nomination was referred to the Ladies Committee, who reported back in February 1947 that they had unanimously elected Miss E (Edna) Schnauer a Life Member. The election of these five new Life Members was subsequently confirmed at the March 1947 Annual General Meeting.

At the end of the first season on the new course the ladies suggested that an alteration be made to the course to counteract the steepness of the 7<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> holes. At that time the 7<sup>th</sup> was the present 18<sup>th</sup> and the 18<sup>th</sup> was the present 9<sup>th</sup> played to the present practise green. A large sub-Committee consisting of the General Committee and four other members was set up to go into the position fully. Two months later three more members were added to the sub-Committee. Members were invited to submit proposals for consideration by the sub-Committee, which by May 1947 had determined that it had no recommendations to make.

In October 1947 the Secretary D R Garrard again tendered his resignation, as from the end of the year. The Committee recognised his service to the Club with the following Minute of Appreciation;

"The Committee accepts with very sincere regret the resignation of the Secretary Mr D R Garrard. Mr Garrard has held the position of Secretary for over 17 years during which period he has earned the respect and esteem of all members of the Club. He

has been unremitting in his service and has been largely responsible for establishing the Club in its present strong position. When the tenure at One Tree Hill was abruptly terminated, he retained his position and by his loyalty and enthusiasm materially assisted in holding the members together. Since taking over the new property he has, in addition to his secretarial duties, supervised the formation of the course and has carried out this difficult task with conspicuous success. The Committee wishes to place on record its sincere appreciation of the long and honourable service Mr Garrard has given to the Club and its thanks for his untiring efforts on its behalf."

Garrard subsequently stood for and was elected to the General Committee in February 1948. His successor as Secretary, Mr G C A Belcher, commenced his duties on 1<sup>st</sup> March 1948.

A special General meeting in October 1947 moved the Club's financial year to coincide with the calendar year and also made provision for members to become Life Members on payment of £100, which at that time was the equivalent of about 8 year's accumulated subscriptions. It would appear that the names of W Goodfellow and W E Lewisham that appear as becoming Life Members on the Honours Board in 1949 fall into that category rather than on the basis of service to the Club. Later in the year the Committee allowed members to take advantage of this rule to allow members to become Life Members by not requiring repayment of qualifying funds previously lent to the Club. Mr T W Murphy qualified as a Life Member under this rule in January 1948 but his name does not appear in any list of Life Members.

In August 1948 the Committee suspended payment of entrance fees and resolved that any entrance fee paid by members joining the Club earlier in 1948 could be credited against their next year's subscription.

Mr H L Gibbs, one of the two Vice-Presidents tendered his resignation in November 1948 as he had received a promotion and would be moving to Wellington. The Committee appointed him as a Life Member at a meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> March 1949 and this was confirmed by the Annual General Meeting later on the same day.

Although not recorded in the minutes an £8000 mortgage on the Club's property was obtained from the National Bank sometime in November/December 1949, thereby reducing the Club's overdraft from £10,325 in November to £2,460 in December.

In June 1949 it was resolved that the men's playing membership be increased to 256, presumably to accommodate the 29 new members elected at that meeting. By August more applications had been received and it was decided to retain the limit of 256 men and to place the applicants on a waiting list. However at the following meeting the limit was increased to 266 and at the October meeting those on the waiting list became members.

For reasons that are not clear Garrard tendered his resignation as Course and Greens Supervisor in December 1949. This prompted a lengthy discussion following which it was unanimously resolved; "That this Committee expresses complete confidence in Mr Garrard's ability as Course and Greens Supervisor and places on record their grateful appreciation of his services and requests him to re-consider his resignation." Garrard obviously did re-consider and successfully moved that applications be immediately called for a competent Head Greenkeeper. Subsequent minutes do not record whether or not the Club was successful in appointing such a person. At the following meeting increases in the course staff pay rates of 10 shillings per week were authorised if necessary to obtain and retain sufficient staff.

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*Hand cut drain through Raupo Swamp*



*Aerial view of West End of new course*

## The 1950s...

**T**hanks to much hard work by previous administrators the affairs of the Club were now in a state where it could start improving what had already been created. The course, while being slightly hillier than some would like, was getting better every year, finances were looking good, membership was growing and the Maungakiekie spirit that had seen the Club through many hard times was again flourishing.

1950 was a reasonably quiet year. Two well attended dances were held, a Model A Ford car had been purchased for £160, a new caterer was appointed and a petition signed by 63 ladies was received concerning the state of the course. The dances and the Club Ball in particular became regular features of the social programme. Mr D. A. Schnauer donated a trophy for the Maungakiekie Foursomes, to be known as the Maungakiekie Foursomes Championship Plate.

On 27 February 1951 the Committee resolved that in view of his long and valuable service to the Club over a long period, the current President, Mr D L McKay be made a Life Member of the Club. This action was endorsed at the Annual General meeting later on the same day. Mr McKay stood down from the executive at the Annual General Meeting and was replaced as President by D R Garrard.

At the February 1951 Annual General Meeting it was reported to members that two properties in White Swan Road were available for purchase. One was owned by Mr Griffen and the other by Mr Hamilton. The meeting directed the Committee to proceed with the purchase of the Griffen property and to explore the possibility of obtaining the Hamilton property at a lower price. These properties are now known as Margaret Griffen Park and adjoin our present 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> holes. To achieve the purchase of the Griffen property the Bank agreed to increase the Club's mortgage from £8,000 to £10,000, but this was not required due to

a breakdown in negotiations for the property.

At the November Committee meeting Mr Garrard raised the question of selling the upper portion of the Clubs property behind the Richardson Road sections that had been sold in 1945. A sub-Committee which was formed to deal with this matter reported back to the Committee in April 1952 and a further sub-Committee was appointed to negotiate with the Government for its sale.

Mr W Renshaw was offered the post of the Club's professional as from 1<sup>st</sup> March 1952 at a retainer of £100 per annum. When he resigned this post in August 1953 the Committee decided that he would not be replaced and that the shop would be carried on by the Club under the supervision of the Secretary, assisted by a boy if necessary.

Changing the limit on the number of men's playing membership was a hot topic in 1952. In May the limit of 266 set three years beforehand was increased to 270. In June it was increased to 275 and in July it was increased to 280. At the July meeting an amendment to the motion that there be no limit and that applications would be considered on their merits was narrowly defeated. A similar motion to the September meeting was successful.

Membership issues were clearly the focus of that September meeting. Firstly it was resolved that 20 bona fide business ladies who work five days of the week, be admitted to the weekend membership with the right to commence play on Saturdays at reserved times. In February 1953 it was decided that the times would be between 10.30am and 11.00am on Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays. Secondly, it was resolved that 20 junior men members be admitted with the right to play special competitions among themselves at suitable reserved times.

At the same meeting a sub-Committee was set up to consult with a competent authority on the

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possibilities of a watering scheme. A report was provided to the Committee in December, and it was decided to call a Special General Meeting of members in January 1953. The proposed watering scheme was strongly supported at that meeting, with the following resolutions being passed;

“That this meeting deeply appreciates the great amount of work done by the Committee and sub-Committees of experts, and the manner in which the detailed report was presented, and approves and adopts the Committee’s recommendations as follows:

1. That the Club provides a watering scheme by the erection of our own dam and reticulation scheme at an estimated cost of £2,500.
2. That the Club’s finances be reorganised to provide sufficient funds to extinguish all existing liabilities including members’ loans to the Club and to pay for the scheme outlined in No.1”

That this meeting recognises that in view of proposed developments, increased revenue will be necessary and recognise that it will be necessary to increase subscriptions.

Raoul Garrard stepped down from the post of President at the March 1953 Annual General Meeting and was succeeded by Mr D A Schnauer. By this time he had given 32 continuous years of service to the Club as Secretary, Committee member and President. In July the secretary, Mr G C A Belcher gave three months notice of his resignation due to ill health. He was replaced by Mr J Drummond.

Work commenced on building the new dam in the valley between the present greenkeeper’s house and Anita Avenue. In November the Committee decided to increase the number of weekend lady players to 30, and Mr Schnauer offered to donate a trophy for that group. A year later that decision was rescinded with all future applications for such membership being treated on their merits. A cup donated by Mr Grant Taylor was allocated to a men’s eclectic competition which is still played for.

In November 1953 the Committee approved additional expenditure on the watering scheme as the £2,500 that had been allocated to that work had been used and the piping was still to be installed. By the time of the Annual General Meeting in February 1954 the watering scheme had been completed and Mr Schnauer was able to report that it had been tested and the results were highly satisfactory. Schnauer praised the Club spirit that had been shown by the many members

who had assisted with the project, which had been ably led by the Captain, Mr T J Kirkup.

Two new tournaments were played in 1954, one being the annual trip to Te Aroha and the other the Drysdale £100 tournament for professionals and amateurs. Mr E Hancock of Te Aroha donated a rose bowl as a trophy to be played for by the two Clubs. A report on the Te Aroha trip praised the wonderful hospitality that had been shown by the Te Aroha Club. This popular event is still in the Club’s programme with each Club visiting the other in alternate years.

At the request of a small group of weekend ladies Mr Kirkup met with them to provide guidance on how to arrange their draw and matches, with the result that a Secretary and a Committee of three were elected. Miss Vinson was the Secretary and Misses Beale and Spencer, along with Mrs Dickens were elected to form the Committee.

Acquisition and disposal of property was discussed at the September 1954 Committee meeting. A surveyor attended the meeting with plans for a subdivision of the land adjacent to Richardson Road. It was resolved that a valuer be engaged to provide valuations of the sections shown on the plan. As Land adjacent to the course had become available it was decided that two of Wiseman’s professionals be engaged to inspect its potential. The lady members of the Committee requested reasons why the services of Mr Hackett, the Head Greenkeeper had been dispensed with. Although the reason for his departure does not appear in the minutes, it is recorded in the October minutes that he had made a claim which was dealt with by Kirkup.

In October the Club received an offer of £6,000 for the whole block of land shown on the plan prepared by the Club’s surveyor. This offer was accepted at the November meeting where it was resolved “that the Club accept a minimum of £6,000 clear of all obligations except our legal fees.”

The Ladies Club recommended to the November 1954 Annual General Meeting that Miss A (Anne) Grove be elected a life member of the Club in recognition of her long and valuable service. Her confirmation as a Life Member was carried unanimously.

At the December 1954 Committee meeting it was decided that the services of Mr H G Babbage be sought to give advice on the course. A rough copy of a proposed new layout of the course was submitted to the February 1955 Committee

meeting on the understanding that a scale plan and full report showing how the Hillsborough Road frontage could be made available for disposal was expected to be available at the next meeting. Interestingly, Committee members were requested to refrain from discussing this matter with the members.

Babbage's plan and report were the subject of a Special meeting of the Committee, which included co-opted members, in May. After considerable discussion it was decided "That Mr Babbage's plan be rejected. That he be asked to again visit our course and make proposals to improvements to the present holes where necessary, and to submit proposals as to altering the present layout to enable the Hillsborough Road frontage to be disposed of." It was also decided that the Babbage plan and report be displayed on the dining room wall. There was no more discussion on this matter in 1955 and it was not until February 1956 that it was discussed again.

In February 1955 the Committee decided to join with the Akarana Golf Club in sponsoring a "Golf Queen" entrant in a beauty Queen contest which was part of a fund raising effort for the proposed Mt Roskill War Memorial. This combined effort raised some £900 for the Club, which was regarded as doing it a great deal of good in many ways, by enhancing its reputation and improving social and financial relations.

At the April Committee meeting the question of members staying late on Sunday nights was discussed, and it was agreed that the rule requiring that the Club premises be vacated by 7 p.m. be enforced. The importance of this was emphasised in September when the Police visited the Club and indicated that a tightening up of Club activities was taking place. In response to this the Committee decided that the lounge would close at 6p.m, the 19<sup>th</sup> hole would close down at an early date, and that a locker system was to be instituted, with lockers being required in both the men's and ladies lounges. The effects of the Police crackdown were evident in the arrangements that were made for the 1956 Opening Day, which was usually one of the social highlights of the year. The arrangements were; "That no organised buffet be supplied and that the caterers be advised that

they can prepare for extra trade. The Club will operate the No. 3 Account (this was the bar account) which will close at 7pm. Members out by 9 p.m."

The December 1955 Annual General Meeting marked the re-introduction of the Entrance Fee for new members at a rate of 5 guineas for men and 3 guineas for ladies.

Babbage's second report was considered at the February 1956 Committee meeting, when it was agreed that the worst features of the course were the 1<sup>st</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> (the present 18<sup>th</sup>) and the 18<sup>th</sup> (the present 9<sup>th</sup> played to the practise chipping green). Proposals to level the 1<sup>st</sup> fairway and to fill a gully on the 7<sup>th</sup> were approved in principle with surveys being commissioned to estimate the amount of soil to be moved.

It was reported to the March Committee meeting that a Head Greenkeeper, Mr H. Pearce, had been appointed and would commence duties on 1<sup>st</sup> April. A residence would need to be built for Mr Pearce, and this was completed by November 1956. A grant of £20 was made to Pearce to cover his costs for furniture storage and freight, and the rental payable by him was set at £2.10.0 per week. At Pearce's request the need for him to continue paying the rental was cancelled in March 1957. It appears from the minutes that Pearce had been living in a caravan while waiting for the house to be completed.

Financial issues were fully discussed by the Committee in June and July. A deficit of between £1000 and £1200 was forecast for the year, and the Finance Committee had recommended that a levy be made on members to cover this loss. It was agreed that a Special General Meeting be called on 9<sup>th</sup> August to address this issue. At the Special General Meeting there was considerable discussion which led to two resolutions being passed. The first resolution provided for the rules of the Club to be altered to enable a General Meeting of the Club to make a levy on all playing members. It also provided for a levy to be made immediately, the amount of the levy being what was required to balance the books for the current year. The second resolution provided for an increase in subscriptions for the following year.

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Discussion on the first resolution occupied most of August's Committee meeting, which decided "That we do not proceed to carry into effect the motion carried at the Special General Meeting."

The Secretary, Mr Jim Drummond passed away during May 1957. In recognition of the fine service he had provided to members the Committee resolved to pay his salary to Mrs Drummond up till the end of May and also set up a testimonial fund for her. A sum of £85 was raised through this fund and sent to Mrs Drummond. Mr H. E. Edmondson was appointed as his successor.

Babbage's "Recommendations for Tightening the Course" were discussed by the Committee in July and August. He attended the August meeting and explained his reasons for the placing of various trees and bunkers. Construction of the new bunkers commenced in August along with coring of the greens using the Club's first coring machine. At the October Committee meeting it was reported that Mr Pearce had been struck by a golf ball which broke his nose. He was still working although suffering considerable pain. As there was a long waiting list at the public hospital the Committee investigated ways of having the necessary operation carried out at a private hospital. By November he had been operated on in the public hospital and would soon be returning to work.

A series of working bees between November 1957 and February 1958 were held under the supervision of L. J. (Lew) Goad and F. H. (Fred) Ferris to paint the Clubhouse. In March 1958 the bank advised that it was prepared to renew the Club's mortgage at 5½ % interest subject to repayments of £500 per annum being made. The Club requested that no such repayments be made and this was accepted by the bank. A second hand Ford truck was purchased in June for £60, and a room was made available for the junior boys.

The financial report at the July Committee meeting expressed concerns that income must be increased in future years. Three alternatives (which are still appropriate under the Club's present situation) were identified;

- 1 To increase subscriptions
- 2 To sell the Hillsborough Road frontage and pay off liabilities. (This would reduce expenditure by way of interest, rates and land tax)
- 3 To increase the membership

Throughout the year efforts had been made to reduce costs by challenging the latest valuation of

the course and by attempting to convince the Mt Roskill Borough Council to reduce the rates paid by the Club. Neither of these were successful, the valuation being deemed reasonable and the rates likely to be similar to that paid in previous years. These matters were discussed at the December 1958 Annual General Meeting where it was generally agreed that land should not be sold and that increasing membership would be the best solution.

In May 1959 it was reported that the Secretary Mr Edmondson had suffered a heart attack and was likely to be absent for one month. Mr Bruce Laird was appointed as Acting Secretary until Mr Edmondson's return to work. In July Mr Edmondson resigned as Secretary due to ill health and was replaced by Mr L J (Lionel) Wood.

At the July Committee meeting the offer by Mr Goad to build a 142 ft long bridge at the 18<sup>th</sup> (present 9<sup>th</sup>) tee was accepted, the estimated price being £290.10.0. Half of the cost was contributed by the ladies Club with the other half coming from the proceeds of the course improvement raffle. This project was completed in time for the 1961 Opening Day.

The Drysdale tournament was re-introduced (it had earlier been held in 1954 and 1956) with invitations being sent to 60 of the lowest handicapped amateurs in Auckland as well as to the professionals.

On Monday the 31<sup>st</sup> of August 1959 a meeting was held in the Clubhouse between 21 junior boys and the Club Captain, L J Holzer, the President, F H Ferris, the Vice-Captain, H L Hendrey and the Secretary. The purpose of the meeting was to create a sound organisation for the juniors, and Mr Holzer indicated that he would welcome constructive proposals. An election of Junior Officials was held which saw M L Schnauer being elected as Captain and B M Willoughby elected as Vice-Captain after a ballot. Mr Holzer described the starting times that had been made available to the juniors, their obligations regarding handicaps, the Club competitions that would be available to them, the possibility of inter-Club matches and games with senior members. He asked the juniors to complete the work in the junior room with materials supplied by the Club, and explained the locker rental charges.

Mr Ferris spoke of the traditions of a Club of which all members could be rightly proud and Mr Hendrey suggested that on the first Saturday of competition the juniors should play in order of arrival to get to know one another. The three

senior members all indicated that they would be donating trophies for junior competition. This meeting gave the juniors a sense that they were valued as members of the Club, and as Garth Vipond recalls "when I joined as a junior a year later I soon found out how committed the senior members were to the golfing education and progression of the junior membership." The Committee backed up the success of the meeting by agreeing that juniors on attaining the age of 20 years (changed the following year to 21 years) need not pay an entrance fee if they had been junior members for two years.

At the October and November Committee meetings there were long discussions on works involving the 15<sup>th</sup> green and proposals to flatten the 7<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> holes by filling low spots and lowering the greens.

According to Miss Schnauer the Club was in danger of losing many lady members if the steepness of those holes was to be retained. The work on the 15<sup>th</sup> green was the only project to be approved at those meetings.

The Ladies Club recommended to the November 1959 Annual General Meeting that Mrs R H Manning be elected a life member of the Club in recognition of her long and valuable service. Mrs Manning had been on the Ladies Committee for 22 years, had been Handicap Manager for 17 years and Ladies Champion for 5 years. Her confirmation as a Life Member was carried unanimously.

Other matters discussed at the Annual General Meeting were the proposed lowering of the 7<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> greens. A motion supporting the Committee in its investigations to level off the fairways to the 7<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> greens, the cost of so doing, and the method of meeting the same, was carried unanimously. Approval to install the bridge on the 8<sup>th</sup> was given at the April 1960 Committee Meeting.



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*View of first Mt Roskill Clubhouse with putting green in foreground.*



*Bulldozer at work in the dam.*

## The 1960s...

**A**t the October 1960 Committee meeting Mr Holzer presented a report and plan for a proposed subdivision of the Club's land to the left of the 8<sup>th</sup> fairway. This was to involve an adjoining owner, Mr Katavich, and was the start of what eventually became the Anita Avenue subdivision. Approximately £33,000 could be obtained through the sale of sections, with expenses being in the region of £12,000 to £15,000. Information regarding plans by the Council to install a sewerage scheme the following year became available and it was recommended that considerable expense could be saved by timing the subdivision to be able to take advantage of that scheme.

A "Special Effort function" fundraiser was held in conjunction with the Ponsonby Rugby League Club. It is believed that this took the form of a car raffle and a "social" evening at the football Club and raised approximately £710 which was earmarked for course development.

A report from Babbage on the rebuilding of the 6<sup>th</sup> green was read at the November Committee Meeting where it was decided that no further action should be taken until after the Annual General Meeting. Given the international pedigree of Charles Alison, who designed the course, it is somewhat surprising to note that he had apparently been forgotten by that time, as the Secretary was instructed to ascertain who the original architects of the course were and to obtain a copy of their plan. At the 1960 Annual General Meeting there was considerable discussion regarding the proposed changes to the original 6<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> greens that had been recommended by Babbage. Work commenced immediately on the 15<sup>th</sup> but the 6<sup>th</sup> remained unaltered until 1968.

The Secretary, Mr Wood, became ill in February 1961 and was admitted to hospital. At the February 1961 Committee meeting it was decided to pay him

in full until the end of March. Mr Goad reported that the bridges on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> would be in use by Opening Day. A cheque for £150 from the Ladies Committee was presented to the March Committee meeting and was immediately passed on to Mr Goad.

A second "Special Effort" fundraiser was held and raised £831 for the Club. In appreciation of the support that the league Club had given, the Club presented them with a chair for their Chairman. A practise fairway was constructed to the right of the first fairway in the area now occupied by Fairway Drive. Oil drums with the tops and bottoms removed were used to pipe the stream that ran across that area.

At the August and September 1961 Committee meetings it was agreed that sketch plans should be drawn up for a new Clubhouse. On both occasions the ladies considered that work on lowering the 7<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> holes was more important. The relationship between the building of the new Clubhouse and the lowering of those holes was still being discussed almost three years later.

It appears that the first Father and Son tournament was held in 1961. This proved to be a very popular event and despite efforts by the Club to have it recognised by the ADGA it remained as a Club event. Although entries were received from most Clubs in Auckland it is difficult to understand why some of those Clubs were not prepared to issue reciprocal rights to Maungakiekie members who could not get a game at the Club during the tournament.

In the 1961 Annual Report mention was made of the fact that the effort that senior members had been putting in to the juniors over the last three years was already providing a source for Full Playing Men Members as they reached the age of twenty-one.

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**Neville Boyd**

Approval of the proposed subdivision was given by the Council in July 1962, and under Leo Hendrey's supervision the surveyors commenced work on detailed plans. By November they were able to report that the cost of the subdivision was estimated to have risen to £25,000 with the value of the sections estimated to be £44,000, leaving a profit to the Club of £18,000.

It appears that two "Special Efforts" were planned for 1962. Although it is not known how much was raised from the first one it was decided in August to proceed with one more on the understanding that the Club would not participate in any way with the subsequent "evening." Ticket sales for this event were obviously slow and it appears from the minutes that it may have been called off. At the final Committee meeting before the Annual General Meeting it had been decided that although the association with the Ponsonby United Rugby League Club over the last 2-3 years had been appreciated, the Club would not participate further in those efforts.

The 1962 Annual General Meeting saw a lengthy debate on the installation of poker machines and the continuation of the "Special Effort" fundraisers. A motion on the poker machines was not agreed to but an amended motion recommending "the Committee give consideration to some form of Special Efforts" was successful.

During 1963 the full playing men's membership grew by 43 to a total of 272. This placed additional pressure on starting times and members were reminded of the need to be ready to play at their appointed time. A study was made of the ability of the course to accommodate more members and in April it was decided that the Full Playing Men's membership should not exceed 280 and that junior boys would only be allowed to play on Saturdays if they had a handicap of less than 24.

A number of the greens were giving trouble early in 1963, and the Club sought expert advice from an agronomist and turf consultant, Mr Ernie Madden, who delivered his report in May. His recommended treatment needed the greenkeeper to comply fully with his directions and to keep a diary of that treatment. By October the greens had improved considerably and the Head Greenkeeper Mr Pearce had regained fitness after a serious operation. At the April Committee meeting concern was expressed at the slow rate of ticket sales in the "Special Effort" which had apparently been approved without any reference to it being made in the minutes. It was decided that Committee members would make an all-out approach to sell

the remaining tickets even if it meant selling them outside the Club.

Difficulties in raising finance for the subdivision works led to the Club offering it for sale as a block. However by June 1963 arrangements had been put in place for the Club to finance its development by means of a 6 month loan, and it was withdrawn from sale. Total expenditure was now expected to be £28,000 with a profit expectation of between £22,000 and £30,000. To her credit Miss Schnauer continued to raise the issue that any profits from the subdivision should be spent on the lowering of the 7<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> fairways rather than on a new Clubhouse.

A Special General Meeting of 58 members was held in July to seek the sanction of the members for the development of the subdivision and the subsequent sale of the sections. After a healthy debate where the merits of selling the land as a block or having the Club develop it were considered, Max Blakey successfully moved the motion "that the meeting supports the Committee in its proposal to sell the land and also supports the decision of the Committee to do its own development and sub-division." This decision allowed the Committee to move quickly in progressing the subdivision.

The Secretary, Mr Wood, informed the June Committee meeting that he had applied for another post. His application proved to be successful and in July the Committee appointed Mr R (Roy) Severs as his replacement. Also at the July meeting it was decided that in view of his great service as Captain, President and ADGA delegate Mr M B (Max) Blakey be recommended to the Annual General meeting as a Life Member. At the August Committee meeting it was decided that in view of Mr E A Robb's long association with, and his valued services to the Club, he also should be recommended to the Annual General meeting as a Life Member. Robb had been associated with the Club for 35 years and in recent years had served terms as Captain, Vice Captain and President. These honours were subsequently confirmed at the 1963 Annual General Meeting.

Sometime between December 1963 and January 1964 it appears that the Head Greenkeeper Mr Pearce left the Club's employ. The new Head Greenkeeper was Mr J (Jack) Tonks. Surprisingly there is no reference to this change in the minutes. In addition the Secretary Mr Severs announced that he would be leaving at the end of January 1964. His replacement was Mr S W (Wallace) Smith.

The formation of sub-Committees early in 1964 saw for the first time a junior Boys Director appointed. He was Mr M K (Morrie) Rich. It does appear from the minutes that over the five years following the meeting at which the senior members had given so much encouragement to the juniors, that the attitude of the senior members had radically changed. There were claims that there had been too much leniency regarding junior boys and that they should be restricted to their own section except for special occasions. They would also have to pay an Entrance Fee when becoming full Playing Members. It may or may not have been a coincidence that at the same meeting it was recommended that the full playing limit be raised from 280 to 300. At the April Committee Meeting it was suggested that the weekend ladies start time should be 8.48a.m. instead of the 11a.m. start time presently in force. Miss B (Betty) Bridger was not happy with this and suggested that they were being passed over in favour of new men members. Her comments were taken notice of and it was agreed that the weekend ladies would be allocated an 11.12am start time from the 8<sup>th</sup> tee. Once the hours of daylight increased the normal one tee start would apply with the ladies reverting back to their earlier times. It must be appreciated that unlike today entries for major events were very high, with 150 entering for the men's Bledisloe Cup and 140 for the Kingswell Shield.

In February a sub-Committee had been set up to investigate the building of a new Clubhouse. It comprised Messrs Goad, McDonald and M K Rich and was later expanded by the inclusion of Messrs Bassett and Jarvis. After inspecting the North Shore Clubhouse the sub-Committee reported back in April, recommending that the new Clubhouse should be built of brick on a concrete block base. The ground floor area would be 5,300 sq ft with a top floor of 5,900 sq ft with a total cost of £44,000.

In May 1964 the Committee decided that in view of Mr Hendrey's long involvement with the subdivision it was decided to name the road after his wife, Anita Hendrey, and that is how Anita Avenue became named. By June the subdivision was almost completed and names were being taken from members interested in purchasing sections. Three sections were withheld from sale pending a decision on the location of a new Clubhouse. By July, 22 sections had been sold with the balance

having been placed with land agents and by September that figure had increased to 27 sections with an aggregate value of £48,800.

As an aside, most Committee meetings in those days commenced at 7.30 p.m. and many of them did not finish until well after midnight. It is clear that a great deal of time was spent on dealing with changes in memberships but there was also a lot going on with improvements to the course (everyone seemed to be a budding golf architect), the new subdivision (everyone seemed to be a budding land developer), and the new Clubhouse design (everyone seemed to be a budding builder and architect).

A Special General Meeting was held on 12 October 1964 to consider the erection of a new Clubhouse and the lowering of the 18<sup>th</sup> (the present 9<sup>th</sup>) fairway in accordance with a design prepared by Mr P H (Phil) Edmonds. The meeting was chaired by Mr Hendrey and although the minutes are not available it is clear that approval was given to both proposals.

Building of houses on the subdivision had commenced by November. Mr Hendrey recommended that as this would create an added interest in the subdivision all prices should be re-adjusted. The new prices would be available to land agents on request and all discounts on sales would cease.

At the November Committee Meeting Mr Hendrey reported on a meeting between the police and all golf Clubs in Auckland. After hearing from the police that no action would be taken against Clubs before Christmas unless a complaint was received, the Clubs decided that the 19<sup>th</sup> hole would be closed from Monday to Friday inclusive, with liquor being available at the weekend until 6 p.m, members to be out of the lounge by 6.30 p.m. A locker system would cost £400 and the Club would still be breaking the law. The police advised that in the event of a raid the senior members of the Committee and the Secretary as well as any members found drinking, would be liable for prosecution. Legal representation was being obtained by the New Zealand Golf Council to see if the law could be circumvented in any legal way. Maungakiekie was more affected than most Clubs as it was in a no-licence area and could not apply for a charter or booth licence. By December advice

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had been received that a card system could be introduced whereby the Club could charge no more than the cost price for a dozen bottles of liquor with a service charge being added. In the Club's case the service charge would be the equivalent to the then current percentage margin of 29.1%.

The Secretary, Mr W S Smith resigned in January 1965 and was replaced by Mr W Tiplady, who very soon became known simply as "Tip". By that time work had commenced on lowering the 18<sup>th</sup> (present 9<sup>th</sup>) hole by excavating into the hill and pushing the spoil into the bush on the right hand side. When completed the hole became known as "Phil's Folly", mainly because of the demanding green which requires total concentration on even the smallest of putts. This has consistently retained a place as one of the five hardest holes on the course.

For some time the Committee had been considering a subdivision of land to the right of the first fairway, and when an opportunity arose to purchase three acres of Crown Land that would provide access to Penney Avenue it was decided to put the subdivision proposal before a Special General Meeting of members. That meeting was held on 18 May 1965 with 40 members attending. After going through the details of the subdivision, including full financial forecasts which estimated a nett profit in the order of £18,000 the following resolution was passed;

"That a piece of land on the Club's property and situated on the western boundary be prepared for subdivision, and that approximately three acres of Crown property adjacent thereto be acquired by the Club and also prepared for subdivision and the proceeds sold."

After his success with the Anita Avenue subdivision Leo Hendrey was asked to undertake supervision of this subdivision also.

Final plans of the new Clubhouse were drawn up by Technitrades and in May a contract was let to Ford Construction Ltd at a price of £43,000.

Credit restrictions imposed by the Government hit both of those projects in July with the bank being forced to turn down the Club's applications for £10,000 to complete the Clubhouse and £25,000 for purchases and development of the subdivision. With 10 lots worth over £17,000 still unsold in the Anita Avenue subdivision the Club had no option but to defer work on the Penney Avenue subdivision and to continue with completion of the Clubhouse.

A Special General Meeting had already been called to endorse changes to the Club rules and it was decided to use that meeting to also put the new financial situation to the members. At the meeting a full breakdown of the financial situation was provided to the 59 members present who were unanimous in deciding that Club members should be called on "to subscribe to an issue of interest free debentures for a 5 year period for the purpose of completing furnishing of the new Clubhouse, removal of the old Clubhouse, erection of a new trundler shed, construction of a new car park and sealing and incidentals." The debenture issue proved to be not as successful as had been hoped, and the October payment to Ford Construction was made out of Club funds. Opening day for the new Clubhouse was set for the Club's Opening Day, Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March 1966.

At the November 1965 Annual General Meeting Mr F L Hendrey was elected as a Life Member of the Club. Leo had been Club Captain in 1961, President in 1964, and had served for a number of years on the Committee. He later served another two years as President in 1969 and 1970. Leo will long be remembered for his efforts in bringing the Anita Avenue and Penney Avenue subdivisions to fruition, thus providing the Club with a sound financial base for future development.

At the December Committee meeting there was considerable debate as to when the seed for the new 18<sup>th</sup> green should be sown. Phil Edmonds was adamant that the front section of the green was too steep and should be fixed before sowing but other members of the Committee felt it was worth the risk to seed the green immediately and to remedy any deficiencies later. The sowing proved to be successful and it was intended that the new hole should be playable by Opening Day.

By the end of 1965 membership had grown to 320 full Playing men and 215 weekday and weekend ladies. There was a waiting list for men and junior boys and the new midweek category was proving to be popular.

Opening day for the new Clubhouse, complete with curtains donated by the ladies, was most successful, although there is some doubt as to whether the new 18<sup>th</sup> hole was in play. A group of visitors from the Heidelberg Club in Melbourne were present and their visit marked the start of a reciprocal arrangement with that Club.

With the new Clubhouse completed and the Club's finances stretched to the limit 1966 would prove to be a relatively quiet year for the Club following a number of years of intense activity. The Head

Greenkeeper, Mr Tonks resigned in May to become Head Greenkeeper at Middlemore and was replaced by Mr Reg Townsend who commenced duties in June. Many small changes to the Clubhouse were being looked at, including the provision of a cool store on the lower level. Present day members will not be surprised that right from the start, puddles of water were present on the floor in the showers.

A similar pattern was followed in 1967 with the Committee consolidating the Club's position. A significant event was an approach in July by Michael Leitch to The Head Greenkeeper for the position of apprentice. As this would be the first apprentice to be appointed under the award it was decided to obtain as many applications as possible from youths in the 16-18 year age range. By September the District Commissioner of Apprenticeship had given the Club approval to enter into a contract of apprenticeship with M F Leitch. Forty-two years later Michael is still working as Head Greenkeeper.

Leo Hendrey attended the August Committee meeting and supplied the latest estimates for the Penney Avenue subdivision. Total costs were estimated to be \$46,000 and with an expected return of \$67,500 for the 27 sections the net profit to the Club would be \$21,500. It should be noted that in 1967 New Zealand adopted decimal currency so from this point on all financials are expressed in dollars rather than in pounds. At a special Committee meeting in September Lew Goad reported that the Borough Council had decided that the width of the carriageway should be increased to an overall width of 36 feet which would potentially reduce the number of sections available for sale. An approach was made to the Council to ascertain whether it would agree to the original 28 foot carriageway but this was refused. Fortunately the increase in width did not reduce the number of sections in the subdivision but would add \$4,000 to the costs. The greenkeeper's house was moved from Penney Avenue to the top carpark to make way for the subdivision.

At the November Committee Meeting the Ladies Committee recommended that Mrs G Pocock be elected as a Life Member and this action was subsequently confirmed at the Annual General Meeting. Mrs Pocock had been a member of the

Club since 1931, had served as Ladies Vice – Captain and had always been a great worker for the Club. Another highlight of this Annual Meeting was the presentation of a floral bouquet and an occasional stool to Edna Schnauer in appreciation of the 25 years she had served the Ladies Committee as its Secretary. Miss Schnauer responded by recounting the history of the Club including the great work that various office holders had carried out over the years.

By February 1968 the Club had been able to negotiate with the National Bank to increase its mortgage to \$40,000 and the savings bank loan to \$20,000. This enabled the Club to finally call tenders for the Penney Avenue subdivision, and in March it was able to accept the lowest tender, from W Stevenson & Son of \$24,866.05. An extremely wet autumn precluded the contractor from meeting the completion date of 5<sup>th</sup> June and an extension was granted in respect of a new completion date of 6<sup>th</sup> December. A side effect of the weather delay was that other works such as the car park, roads, Clubhouse entrance and a pro shop depended on the sale of sections from the subdivision and could not be undertaken until the funding was available. The subdivision was eventually completed in April 1969 and the valuation that was undertaken at that time showed that the aggregate value of the sections was \$108,300.

During 1968 members became concerned about the present condition of the course and plans for its future development. A Special General Meeting which was held in February to address those issues supported the future planning and passed a vote of confidence in the Committee. In August the Committee received a letter from the Ladies Club voicing their disappointment at the condition of play over the past four months and stated that enquiries were being made about membership of other Clubs. A letter regarding the condition of the course was also received from Messrs Hendrey, Blakey, Smythe, Ferris, and Goad, seeking a meeting with the Committee. Following this the Committee posted letters to all members covering the difficulties with the subdivision, the activities of the Social Committee and the condition of the course.

At the October Committee meeting it was decided that Mr L J Goad be elected as a Life Member in respect of the services rendered by him to the Club

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over a long period. This well deserved honour was confirmed at the Annual General meeting in November. Mr Goad had served on the Committee for many years, was Club Captain in 1962 and 1963, and President in 1965. He will always be remembered for his calm manner and the major effort he put into supervising the building of the new Clubhouse.

At the December Committee meeting the Captain, Mr J Lang, reported that he had heard that the Head Greenkeeper, Mr Townsend, had been applying for a position in Wellington, and in view of the problems that would arise if he left at short notice, he had written to Mr Townsend advising him that his services would be terminated at the end of the month. His replacement as Head Greenkeeper was Mr J (John) Bourke.

Despite the bad weather and the poor state of the course much was achieved during 1968. Work on a new practise putting green which was paid for by the Social Committee was commenced. This is the green in front of the Clubhouse which is still in use today.

Membership of the Club rose sharply during 1969, with 355 full playing men and 227 midweek and weekend ladies. Sections in the Penney Avenue subdivision went on sale and by the end of the year 19 of the 28 sections had been sold, returning some \$70,000 to the Club.

## The 1970s...

**A**t the start of 1970 there was considerable debate around plans to build a new par 3 hole played from Hillsborough Road down the 14<sup>th</sup> fairway followed by a par 5 hole to the old 15<sup>th</sup> green. The final decision was not to proceed with those works but to upgrade the existing 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> greens instead. Work on the 14<sup>th</sup> was completed early in the spring of 1970, as was the piping of the drain in front of the present 10<sup>th</sup> hole, but the 15<sup>th</sup> green was not brought into play until March 1971. Members were still not happy with the condition of the course and tensions were developing both within the Committee and between the Committee and the Head Greenkeeper, reaching the stage where the Committee prioritised the tasks to be undertaken by the greens staff. At the October Committee meeting it was decided that Mr Bourke's appointment be terminated as from 20<sup>th</sup> October 1970 and that he be given a month's salary in lieu of notice. A new Head Greenkeeper, Mr Walton was appointed and commenced duties at the end of November.

Mr Paul Hahn, a professional golfer who specialised in trick shots visited the Club in February 1970 and amazed the spectators with his abilities which included hitting a ball from a buried lie with a rubber shafted Club. Another professional, Mr Frank Malloy, was appointed as the Club's new professional.

Good progress was being made on the cool room on the lower level of the Clubhouse. In September the Committee authorised the purchase of the necessary refrigeration equipment. A final payment was made to the main Penney Avenue contractors in December. However a sum of \$3226 was still in dispute and could be subject to litigation.

Completion of the top carpark and formation of the loop road to the Clubhouse was achieved early in

1971. Damage to the spillway from the dam was investigated and repairs were estimated to cost \$5,000 to stop more serious damage occurring.

Consideration of this work was deferred until later in the summer. The damage to the dam led to a sub-Committee chaired by Mr J (Jack) Lovelock being set up to investigate various means of water supply and irrigation on the course. Approval was subsequently given to an exploratory well being drilled on the course and to repairs being made to the pump. It was found that the pump was still not capable of watering the greens on the high ground near Hillsborough Road and approval was given to provide a connection to the ARC supply main to provide water to those greens.

It is pleasing to note that the earlier concerns by the members and the Committee regarding the management of the course seemed to have settled down under the Mr Walton's leadership and the relationship between all parties during 1971 was of a co-operative rather than a confrontational manner.

In August 1971 a preliminary meeting had been held regarding the extension of the Clubhouse to provide for a games room, pro shop, trundler shed and toilets. The proposed plans along with an estimated cost of \$40,000 were put to the members at the Annual General Meeting and were approved in principle. Only 3 sections remained unsold in the Penney Avenue subdivision at the end of 1971.

Drilling the exploratory well to the right of the present 8<sup>th</sup> green took place in February 1972 and a good flow of water was found at 193 feet below ground level. On Mr Lovelock's recommendation it was agreed that an 8 inch bore would be drilled to a depth of 500 feet. To put this into perspective the bottom of the bore would be some 360 feet below sea level. It was also agreed with Akarana that the

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two Clubs would make a joint purchase of a new coring machine.

In May Mr Lovelock presented the Committee with a proposed watering scheme, which included storage tanks to hold 25,000 gallons, additional water pipe reticulation, and a power supply to the bore site. Approval to testing of the bore and building the pump house and switch room was subsequently given by the Committee in October. A report on the proposed extensions to the Clubhouse was also presented by Mr G A (Gary) Lane. By this stage the estimated cost had risen to approximately \$55,000. By October acceptable financial arrangements had been made with the bank and a Special General Meeting was held to consider the extensions. At that meeting they were approved subject to the contract price not exceeding \$60,000. In December a contract was let to Stoddard Construction Ltd for the extensions at a tendered price of \$52,016, and with good management the total cost was reduced to \$49,553.

In June Mr P E (Paul) Reeves was elected as the Club's new delegate to the Auckland District Golf Association. This move marked the start of a long and successful period of service to high level golf administration at both district and national levels.

All sections in the Penney Avenue subdivision were sold before the end of 1972.

In March 1973 there were concerns that the face of the dam was eroding badly and that there was a danger of it collapsing and washing away the sewer line from the Clubhouse. Residents adjoining the dam were advised of the Club's intentions to lower the water levels on a permanent basis. Mr Lovelock, who had refused to accept fees for his earlier work on the watering scheme was asked to prepare plans for adequate supports for the sewer line. However funding for this was not approved until March 1974.

In May the Club became aware that the Mt Roskill Borough Council was offering sections for sale beside the second fairway and was concerned that purchasers of those sections may not be aware that golf balls were often hit into that area.

The head Greenkeeper, Mr Walton, advised the Club that he had purchased his own house and would be vacating the greenkeeper's house. Appropriate adjustments were made to his salary in recognition of the fact that the Club had been providing him with a free house. The house was subsequently let at \$32 per week.

Completion of the extensions to the Clubhouse was achieved in July and an official opening by Roy Pulman, Chairman of the ADGA was set down for 18<sup>th</sup> August 1973. At the opening Life Members Messrs Goad, Hendrey, Robb, Blakey and McKay made a donation of \$500 which was intended to be used to build a trophy case. Twelve months later the use of that donation was still being discussed with the Life Members, and five years later construction of the trophy case commenced. After many years of consideration agreement had been reached on the new Club blazers and the first of these were delivered during August.

An estimate was received for a pop-up sprinkler system for the Club at a total cost of \$30,000. After discussing this with Mr Lovelock it was decided that it would be prudent for the Club to purchase the necessary pipe in advance of a price increase, and that the laying of the pipe should be achieved by a working bee. The working bee, which involved 62 men and 24 ladies, was held on Sunday 9 December, when all the pipes and valves were laid, as well as pop-up sprinklers on the 9<sup>th</sup> green. A further \$5,400 would be needed to complete the installation of the rest of the sprinklers and due to the hardness of the ground this work was programmed for the spring of 1974 when the ground would be softer. The second working bee was held on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October 1974 with 80 members attending. Installation of the sprinklers was completed by 4pm.

In November Raoul Garrard who had been the Club's auditor for many years announced that due to ill health he would be retiring from that role. Mr George Belcher, who had previously been Club Secretary and Committee member, kindly offered to take over that position.

The November 1973 Committee meeting received a recommendation from the Ladies Committee that Mrs N M (Nora) Wilson and Mrs A (Anita) Hendrey be elected as Life Members of Maungakiekie. This recommendation was put before the Annual General Meeting and both ladies were confirmed as Life Members.

Closing day in 1973 will be remembered for the fact that the band didn't arrive. In true Maungakiekie spirit, members managed to have a great time anyway.

In October 1974 Leo and Anita Hendrey offered to donate trophies to commemorate the unique position of husband and wife being elected Life Members of a golf Club. The trophies were first played for in August 1975. Those members who

have competed for the trophy will know that Leo and Anita went to considerable expense to purchase the trophies, unlike other trophies for which prizes must be found from Match Fees. Leo's speeches at prizegiving were certainly worth listening to and in recent years Anita has continued that tradition.

The 1974 Annual General Meeting saw a discussion regarding the creation of an open lounge. After much discussion it was decided "That on competition days the Lady members retain the use of their lounge, and that the Gentlemen's lounge remain a men's lounge on a Saturday until after the day's results have been given or at a time to be decided by the Committee." That resolution makes it quite clear that an open lounge was still a long way off.

In December Michael Leitch, who had completed his apprenticeship, requested leave of absence for four months with the view of deciding whether he would become a professional golfer. He was granted a period of extended leave and by March 1975 had returned to the greens staff.

Mr Walton, the Head Greenkeeper, handed in his resignation in June 1975 as he had accepted a similar post at Te Awamutu. The lessee of the greenkeeper's house was informed that the Club would require the house when Mr Walton's successor was appointed. His successor, Mr M (Mike) Leitch, commenced work as Head Greenkeeper on 21<sup>st</sup> July 1975 and to date has occupied that position for 34 years. Mike's brother Warren Leitch, who was already working on the course, entered into a contract of apprenticeship in October 1975.

At the October Committee meeting a letter was received from the Professional Golfer's Association raising objections to making the Drysdale tournament a 36 hole event. Over the previous two years it had been reduced to an 18 hole event. The professionals had now stipulated that 36 hole events should offer \$1000 or more prizemoney, and unless agreement is reached all future Drysdale events should be over 18 holes.

Over the past two years problems had emerged in the form of neighbouring property owners adjacent to the dam and the Clubhouse erecting fences and walls on Club property. Wisely the Club decided

that steps would be taken to dismantle any offending structures.

Two major tournaments were allocated to Maungakiekie during the 1976 season. In March the 21<sup>st</sup> inter-district contest for the Garrard Shield would be held, and in October the Club would be hosting the New Zealand Mixed Foursomes tournament. The Garrard Shield was named in honour of Raoul Garrard in recognition of his service to golf at the highest level, including being President of the Auckland District Golf Association from 1953 to 1956, the Auckland Councillor to the New Zealand Golf Association from 1950 to 1952 and Vice-President of the New Zealand Golf Association in 1954. Another highlight was the election in February 1976 of Paul (the Bishop) Reeves as President of the Auckland District Golf Association, a position he also held in 1977.

Our Senior Pennant team won the President's section of the Senior Pennants and qualified for the Bissett Shield the following year. In the New Zealand Mixed Foursomes tournament Bill Lindsay and Peggy Craig were successful in winning the second 16 group.

Approval was given in April 1976 to the replacement of the Nissen Hut that had been used as the greenkeeper's shed with a new machinery shed at a cost of \$6,000. This was completed in September. Shortly after signing a contract with the Club that had taken over a year to negotiate, the Club's professional Frank Malloy resigned. He was replaced by Mr Grant Keats.

Negotiations with Leopard Breweries meant that draught beer would be available by the end of October. Two beer coupons would buy one jug. Members present on Hendrey Trophy Night would be given a token which could be redeemed for two jugs to be shared among four players. In January 1977 a letter of resignation was received from the Secretary, Mr (Tip) Tiplady. He was replaced by Mr E J (John) Cumming. A farewell and presentation was arranged for Tip on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March. From all accounts this was a great success as can be seen in the photographs.

Early in the year wet weather affected the course but with good management it recovered well. A three year programme for new machinery was put in place and the benefits of the new equipment

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were soon felt. Practise nets were installed in a space below the first tee and the pro shop at a cost of approximately \$5,000, most of this being in the preparation of the foundations for the tall poles which hold up the netting.

An Ancillary Liquor Licence was applied for during 1977 and was finally able to be uplifted from the Ancillary Licensing Commission in September 1978. The hours set by the Commission were to be strictly observed.

The format of the Drysdale tournament changed this year with no professionals being involved for the first time in 23 years. Instead the field was grouped into flights of 16 players who enjoyed the match play format.

At the May 1978 Committee meeting it was reported that the hydraulic mowers had been sold to the Southland Golf Club for \$4,200. This sale unfortunately caused a dispute situation between the two Clubs, which was the subject of much discussion at the October Committee meeting, where it was resolved by a majority vote that payment in full for the mowers "be vehemently demanded." At the November meeting it was disclosed that a letter had been sent erroneously citing 20 hours as the probable working life of the mowers, and the Southland Club had rightly taken that figure at face value. To resolve the situation a 50-50 split of the price was suggested and by April 1979 the final cheque for the mowers was paid.

In his 1978 President's Report Ken McKenzie paid tribute to the condition of the course which was due to a small group of hard working staff who were able to take advantage of the improved equipment available to them. Ken also included the following words which were very appropriate at the time and which have remained appropriate to the present day;

"With all the bouquets I have handed out, I have one brickbat and it is this. Would all the pundits who decide the Club's fate of an evening in the lounge, spare a thought to those who give of their time unstintingly for the betterment of the Maungakiekie Golf Club. Constructive criticism is always welcomed, in fact asked for, by reason of having a suggestion box readily available to

members. Alternatively, Executive and Committee are only too happy to discuss matters with members. Remember they are your elected representatives. Failing all else, then be a man, stand up, and be counted at the ballot box."

An extremely successful working bee was held in February 1979 with 120 members engaged in forming shell paths and painting. By May the condition of the greens was causing concern, and it was concluded that there had been an adverse reaction to a hormone spray that had been applied a month before. There was no antidote and the only cure was to wait for the leaching process to play its part. Over the next month the greens continued to cause concern and assistance was sought from the Greenkeepers Association Advisory Panel and a Turf Culture expert, Bruce Haycock. With much care over the next eight months the greens reached the stage where they were healthy enough to cope with the following winter. Many lessons were learned from this experience.

During 1979 a new Honours Board was donated to the Club by Mr L Hotchin and Mr J Haldane. It was mounted above the bar which also underwent changes with the replacement of the beer cards by a cash system. The beer cards had been with us for 15 years and would not be missed by those of us who kept putting them through the washing machine.

Another successful working bee was held in August to plant hundreds of trees as part of a course beautification scheme. In conjunction with the Mt Roskill Lions a Spina Bifida tournament was held which raised \$4,700 for that charity. A sub-Committee was set up to investigate a proposal that a bowling green be established near the Clubhouse. After interviewing the Kittyhawks Club and obtaining information from the Mt Roskill Bowling Club and two bowling green contractors, a meeting of members was held with interested members. It was concluded that there was insufficient interest to enable that project to proceed.

M.G. 18	M.G. 18	M.G. 18	M.G. 18
M.G. 18	M.G. 18	M.G. 18	M.G. 18
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NAME		No 540	
NAME		No 540	
M.G. 18	M.G. 18	M.G. 18	M.G. 18

*One beer card that didn't go in the washing machine!*



*Ladies in the new Clubhouse*



*1971 vandalism in protest at South Africa playing in the Commonwealth Tournament.*

## The 1980s...

**E**arly in 1980 donations from members and many Friday night raffles enabled Bob Morrison and his helpers to construct a new barbecue shed (the log cabin) in the pine trees adjacent to the 6<sup>th</sup> tee. Unfortunately this was burnt down by vandals early in 1991. Another successful working bee was held to provide a pipeline between the pump shed and the ARC water main in Hillsborough Road to ensure a reliable water supply at all times. This proved invaluable early in 1981 when a hot spell of weather required a watering cycle of 12 minutes twice daily, requiring up to 4,000 gallons per day to be drawn from this source.

In January 1980 a Tauranga expert in course design, Mr Harry Dale, was asked to provide advice on possible improvements to the course. His report was considered by the Committee in September, and plans of his suggested improvements were displayed in the Clubhouse. Over the next few years Mr Dale's recommendations in respect of the construction of new bunkers were implemented along with improvements to the contouring around some greens to allow water to drain away naturally.

Plans were drawn up for small lakes to be constructed in what was an untidy area of the main stream between the present 9<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> holes. When a group of the Vets heard of these plans they set about landscaping the area and spent many hours each week clearing it and planting the trees that are still there today.

In December a 50<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Celebration was held to mark the 1930 separation of Titirangi and Maungakiekie. Rex George, who had left Maungakiekie in 1936 to rejoin Titirangi, was present at the celebrations and recounted many of his experiences at One Tree Hill and Cornwall Park. It is a pity that the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the separation was not celebrated in 2005.

A highlight of the 1981 season was the holding of the New Zealand Junior and Boys championship at Maungakiekie. Greg Turner won the Junior title and Grant Waite won the Boy's title. Both of these players became successful touring professionals. During the tournament a storm felled the flagpole and broke a large section off the top. After a long delay by the insurance company it was eventually repaired by Col Murray and still stands to this day.

In December 1981 it was found that the submersible pump in the bore was beyond repair despite having undergone major servicing 12 months beforehand. This was not good news at a time where the greens were showing good recovery from their recent misfortunes. A new pump was quickly ordered and arrangements were made to have the old pump returned to the Club from Christchurch.

In March 1982 it became apparent that the old oil drum drain on the right hand side of the first fairway had failed and there was a danger that the boundary walls of the adjoining Fairway Drive properties could be undermined. A Special Committee meeting which was called to address this matter decided that an open drain should be cut to relieve the immediate problem and that a permanent 500 metre length of concrete piping should be installed as a permanent solution. Good weather conditions enabled this work to be undertaken before winter. Wally Kemp supervised this work which included him undertaking the uncomfortable and potentially dangerous task of crawling through the laid pipes to plaster some of the interior joints.

It was finally decided where the new toilet block on the course would be located. Earlier decisions had been in favour of it being located in the area between the present 16<sup>th</sup> tee and the present 10<sup>th</sup>

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green, but a survey of members showed that the preferred location was adjacent to the "Brick House" behind the present 12<sup>th</sup> green. Thanks to the efforts of Mr Kemp, Mr Fishwick and Mr Rosnell the building was soon completed.

The Secretary, Mr J Cumming resigned after a long period of illness and was replaced in July by Mr G (Gary) Hilder. A repeat of the 1973 Closing Day experience occurred when the band didn't turn up.

On the recommendation of the Ladies Committee it was resolved that Mrs H D (Peggy) Craig be elected as a Life Member of the Club. This was confirmed at the Annual General Meeting in November. Mrs Craig had served for 12 years on the Ladies Committee and had held the posts of Secretary, Captain and President. She had also served on the Auckland Ladies Golf Union Executive Committee.

At the June 1983 Committee Meeting Mr Paul Reeves was congratulated on his appointment as Vice President of the North Island Golf Association. Further congratulations were in order in December of the same year when he was elected as a New Zealand Golf Association Councillor. Paul's term as Councillor ended in June 1986 when he was elected to the New Zealand Management Committee, a position he held until 1992.

In the leadup to the 1983 Annual General Meeting there was a degree of dissatisfaction by some members of the Committee at the nominations made by the current executive in respect of the following year's executive. This led to a member of the Committee standing against the executive's choice, and being successful. While tradition decreed that members of the committee should not stand against the nominations of the executive, it was the right of every other Club member to do just that. Without any formal guidelines committing the executive and the committee to the principles of collective responsibility, a difficult situation such as this was, and still is, likely to arise at some point in time.

Tensions within the Executive and Committee surfaced again in 1984 when the handling of the term of suspension of a member led to the President and a Committee member resigning 3 months before the Annual General Meeting.

On the brighter side Club members were successful in achieving the fastest round of golf in a nationwide competition with a time of 10 minutes and 42 seconds. The prize for winning was an electronic typewriter which served us well for many years.

A Jubilee sub-Committee was formed in June 1985. Its first task was to decide whether to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> year of the Club's existence or the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the Mt Roskill Course. Although the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary was chosen it is now known that this date had already been reached in October of the previous year and that the celebrations that were held in 1986 represented the 77<sup>th</sup> year of the Club's existence. The celebrations did however represent 40 years at Mt Roskill and that certainly was an occasion worth celebrating.

During 1985 it was decided to investigate a scheme to improve the watering of our tees. Complex quotations were received from two suppliers and Mr Lovelock was asked to provide technical advice on them. In November it was decided to accept the quotation from Harvins of \$34,000 - 35,000 and proceed with their scheme. This work was duly completed in February 1986, and was soon followed by the main reticulation pump burning out.

In March 1986 the Jubilee Committee was reconstituted with Leo Hendrey as its Chairman and Betty Bridger as its Secretary. This Committee very quickly introduced a programme for the October celebrations which were a great success with golf being played on eight successive days and two formal dinners being held. A profit of what is believed to be over \$5,000 was made from the Jubilee and six years later this was used by Leo and his band of helpers to build the Jubilee House adjacent to the present men's 10<sup>th</sup> tee.

The night of Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April will be remembered for the actions of an arsonist who set fire to the main office by pushing paper through the scorecard hatch and setting fire to it. Fortunately the fire was noticed by a neighbour who raised the alarm in time for the Fire Brigade to extinguish it before the whole Clubhouse became involved. The office was out of commission for over a month while repairs were carried out. As a mark of appreciation for his efforts the Committee waived the subscription for his two sons and presented him with a voucher for \$150. The Committee also looked into the installation of improved fire detection and security systems.

Out on the course improvements were being made to the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> holes in respect of the drains which crossed those fairways. The path on the 2<sup>nd</sup> was raised to prevent washouts and the drain under the 3<sup>rd</sup> was relaid. Inside the Clubhouse work was in progress to remove the folding doors that separated the Ladies and Men's lounges. After many years of discussion an open lounge was at last becoming a reality.

In July 1986 our professional, Grant Keats, resigned and was replaced by Chris McLaren who commenced his duties on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1987. Plans to extend the Pro Shop and trundler room at an estimated cost of \$20,000 were approved. The first stage of this work, involving building an office and workshop was completed early in 1987, but when tenders were received for the trundler room extensions the cost was considered to be too high and alternative plans were drawn up. The new plans attracted an objection from a neighbour and resolution of this delayed completion of the trundler facility until October 1987, at a cost of \$44,645.

At the September Committee meeting a letter from the Ladies Committee was received recommending Betty Bridger as a Life Member. The meeting unanimously endorsed that recommendation. At the Annual General Meeting Joe Pelham was unanimously made an Honorary Member of the Club in recognition of 50 years continuous membership.

During 1987 a much needed coolroom and other improvements were made to the kitchen. Chris McLaren, the new professional, introduced some new innovations to the Wednesday night twilight tournaments and also put considerable effort into improving the performance of the junior golfers.

On the social side the Annual Report included the following comments from the Social Committee that reflected the influence of many factors that have carried through to the present day;

“The social Committee is very concerned at the drop in attendance by members at social events and socialising in the Clubhouse in general. Whether this is due to the drink/drive law or apathy on the part of members I don't know. What I do know is that we have a three million dollar Clubhouse just sitting there with a fully paid barman doing nothing.”

In December 1987, 137 professionals took part in a pre-qualifying tournament for the ANZ/Shell tournament to be held at Titirangi. Their scorecards were used as inputs into a review of the stroke values of the Maungakiekie course.

Purchase of the Club's first poker machines (five of them) was authorised in January 1988, at a total cost of \$5,600. For reasons that are unexplained these had gone by the end of the year and a decision was made to purchase one new machine early in 1989, with a second machine being purchased later in the year.

February 1988 marked the publication of the first issue of “Golf at the 19<sup>th</sup>.” This magazine has been published at regular intervals since then and has been a good means of conveying information to the members.

The new Clubhouse roof was completed in October at a cost of \$30,000. A significant benefit of this project was that it provided for insulation to be installed in the ceiling. Extensions to the brick house were also completed thanks to a donation from the family of the late Jim Ash.

The Secretary, Mr G Hilder resigned in May 1988 and was replaced by Mr B W (Brian) Palmer who left the Club's employ early in 1989 and was replaced by Mr G B (Bud) McPhatter who was appointed at the February 1989 Committee meeting.

At the Annual General Meeting Messrs N W Shanly, D A Schnauer and L B Schnauer were unanimously made Honorary Members of the Club. Like Joe Pelham all of these members had played on the Cornwall Park course and had served on the Committee.

In January 1989 it was announced that Mr Paul Reeves had been made an Honorary Life Member of the Auckland District Golf Association. Paul thus joined Raoul Garrard as being the two most honoured administrators that Maungakiekie has produced.

The Spina Bifida charity tournament that had been run in conjunction with the Mt Roskill Lions for 10 years was to be replaced with a “Kids Charity” Tournament, also involving the Lions.

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**Bill and Ada Lindsay**

## The 1990s...

**O**ur junior golf programme was really starting to produce results in the early 90's, with Marcus Wheelhouse in particular achieving high placings in a number of senior and junior events. Included in these were a win in the New Zealand Boys Championship and a place in the Auckland senior representative team. Other juniors also performed with distinction in outside tournaments. Much credit is due to the influence of Chris McLaren on the whole junior squad.

In April 1990 it was suggested that the normal streams of income from subscriptions, green fees and the bar do not produce sufficient cashflow for major works such as Clubhouse renovations and reconstruction of greens and tees to be undertaken. Other means of creating income by developing or selling land were suggested and to this end a sub-Committee was set up to investigate the potential of three blocks of land. These were the land at the end of Anita Avenue, an area to the right of the first fairway and the site occupied by the greenkeeper's house in Anita Avenue. The initial result of the sub-Committee's investigations was that a new house should be built for the greenkeeper on land between the former dam and the Clubhouse and that the cost of this should be met by the rentals from the former greenkeeper's house.

At the 1990 Annual General Meeting there were a number of Notices of Motion from members which produced lively debates among the 171 attendees. A motion providing for Social Members was not passed but an amendment providing for the Committee to bring a new proposal back to a Special General Meeting was successful. A motion providing for members reaching 60 years of age with 30 years Full Playing membership to receive a 20% discount on their subscription was passed, but another motion calling for midweek men to be given one vote (the same as the women) was lost. Mrs E (Ethel) Tomkins then moved a motion which called for the Rules to be changed to provide for gentlemen to have just one vote instead of the two votes they had always enjoyed. This motion was carried, putting to an end the situation where men had two votes against only one vote for the ladies. It had taken 70 years since the previous attempt by the ladies to change this rule.

In December 1990 agreement was reached with Mr McLaren that he would provide six golf carts for hire and that any member wishing to use their own cart would have to make arrangements with him.

Building the new greenkeeper's house was delayed by objections raised by neighbours claiming loss of view. Although agreement was reached with those neighbours as to the location and height of the building another group of neighbours lodged objections causing further delays. Financing of this project was raised and it was decided that rather than rent the old greenkeeper's house, it may be better to sell it, provided the Council would be agreeable to a change in zoning. Financing the refurbishment of the ladies locker room was also an issue which led to the ladies contributing \$2,000 of the estimated \$6,500 cost.

During 1991 the lower carpark was completed, providing over 30 new parking spaces adjacent to the yet to be started greenkeeper's house. Painting the interior of the Clubhouse with fire retardant paint to comply with the fire regulations was an issue which took most of the year to resolve. The final solution was to install a suspended ceiling which would give the Club more flexibility in the event of a sprinkler system being required in the future. The new first green was opened for play in April 1992. During its construction members had been playing to a temporary green just past the fairway bunker. A sub-Committee that had been set up to identify areas of land that could be developed to realise monies that could be used to refurbish the Clubhouse reported back that the most readily available property was the land at the bottom end of Anita Avenue. It had been estimated that the refurbishing could cost between \$100,000 and \$150,000 and that around \$300,000 may be realised from 5 sections being developed in that area. By June a quotation of \$500 had been accepted with regard to a survey of the area.

Also in June a fairway mower was being trialled while our set of gang mowers was undergoing major repairs. Despite warnings from the finance convenor that this machine may not be affordable at the time it was agreed that in principal the Club should replace the gang mowers with a fairway

mower. At the July meeting it was decided to purchase the fairway mower at a cost of \$55,182. This was a significant move as it marked the start of the Club's move into the modern generation of self-propelled course equipment.

A building permit was issued for the new Greenkeeper's house and work commenced on its construction.

The success of the Club's investment in the junior programme was evident in the 1992 Senior Championships where juniors filled five of the top six places. Marcus Wheelhouse was the winner and was believed at that time to be the youngest Champion in the Club's history. He went on to win many tournaments including two wins in the New Zealand Strokeplay Championship, and was a full New Zealand representative on eight occasions, which included playing in the Eisenhower team in 1994. When Marcus turned professional at the end of 1995 the Club held an Open Day which raised \$7,000 to start him on his career. Marcus and Sloane Morpeth some 60 years earlier are regarded as the two best golfers to have been produced by the Club.

At the 1992 Annual General Meeting there was considerable discussion on a Notice of Motion proposing that the meeting endorse rezoning the area of land at the southern end of Anita Avenue from Recreational to Residential zoning, with a view to sale, subject to a General Meeting. Many views were expressed and the motion was carried on a show of hands. Surprisingly, given the success of the juniors in the Club Championships, the number of juniors had fallen sharply and the meeting discussed ways of attracting more juniors to the Club.

Work commenced on the new 7<sup>th</sup> green (present 6A green) late in 1992 and by January 1993 it had reached the stage where grass could be sown. Storage bunkers to contain sand and other materials were under construction at the greenkeeper's shed. The new culvert to replace the bridge at the 18<sup>th</sup> was also under construction, as was the Jubilee House adjacent to the present 10<sup>th</sup> tee. Leo Hendrey and his team of builders were disappointed to find that the roofing tiles they had stored some years earlier at the Greenkeeper's shed had gone missing.

Plans for the refurbishment of the Clubhouse were well advanced and by March 1993 the estimated cost of this project had risen to \$170,000. A special Committee meeting was held in August to consider the tenders for the refurbishment but unfortunately the minutes of that meeting are not available. It is however, clear that a contract was awarded and that the refurbishment proceeded, giving us the facilities that we are still enjoying.

The Jubilee House was completed late in 1993 and was appropriately opened on Hendrey Trophy day. This structure was used by the caterers for some years with cold drinks being dispensed in summer and curried sausages being provided in winter. Sadly it has not been in use for some years and it would be a great pity if this situation is allowed to continue indefinitely.

During the Committee meetings leading up to the 1993 Annual General Meeting the issue of the executive "dressing the house" in terms of its nominations for the next year's executive was discussed at length. This was a similar situation to that which had occurred ten years earlier, with the positions of Club Captain and Vice President being challenged by other members of the Committee. This time the executive's nominee for Captain was successful but their nominee for Vice President was defeated.

At the 1993 Annual General Meeting Bob Reid referred to the lack of a suitable memorial to members who served in both world wars. He suggested that over the coming year the Committee give consideration to a memorial arch over the path leading to the first tee. Plans for a memorial adjacent to the 1<sup>st</sup> tee were produced by Peter Davenport early in 1995 and a decision to proceed with construction was made in March. The memorial was completed in April and was the focus of the Anzac Day service held on the 1<sup>st</sup> tee that year.

In January 1994 the North Harbour Golf Association completed its break away from the Auckland District Golf Association. In October of the same year the North Harbour Ladies Golf Union completed its break away from the Auckland Ladies Golf Union.

During 1994 the Club agreed to a proposal by Bell South to erect a mobile phone tower in the grove of

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trees behind the 4<sup>th</sup> green. After some months spent in obtaining resource consent from the Council, this tower was finally erected and along with subsequent towers erected in the same area has provided the Club with good rental income ever since.

In July the veteran members presented the Club with the lectern which is an important part of the Clubhouse furniture. It is a fine piece of craftsmanship and was built by T LeGros.

At the September 1994 Committee meeting it was proposed that Mr Paul Reeves be elected as a Life Member of the Club. Paul's record of long service to Maungakiekie, the ADGA, of which he was a Life Member, and the NZGA, was referred to along with the respect he had earned throughout New Zealand in his efforts to move the game of golf to a higher plane. The vote was unanimous and Paul was made a Life Member of the Club.

During 1994 there was considerable discussion regarding the need to expand the greenkeeper's shed to provide more security for the course maintenance equipment. It was decided that the best way to finance this work would be to sell the old greenkeeper's house which at the time was bringing in \$640 per month in rent. The proposal to sell the house was successfully put to the Annual General Meeting with the proviso that the money realised from its sale would be made available for capital expenditure only. New laws regarding smoking in the Clubhouse were a big issue at that meeting and after much debate it was resolved that the dining room and the area of the lounge between the dining room and "the beam that is virtually in the middle of the bar" be non-smoking areas.

Prior to the start of the Annual General Meeting Life Members badges were presented to Leo and Anita Hendrey, Max Blakey, Paul Reeves, Lew Goad and Betty Bridger. Unfortunately Nora Wilson was unable to attend.

Work commenced on the extensions to the greenkeeper's shed early in 1995, along with tenders being called for sale of the old Greenkeeper's house. Problems became evident with the house sale when it was found that the property did not have separate title. To cover the situation the intended purchaser was able to take over the house when it was vacated with the option of either paying a nominal rent or paying a large deposit and be rent free until the title was available. The tendered purchase price was for unknown reasons not included in the minutes. Completion of the sale of the house appears to have been achieved in April 1996.

Over the summer of 1994/1995 the recently constructed 1<sup>st</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> greens were both causing problems through an inadequate cover of grass. On an original recommendation from Turf Culture they had both been constructed on a sand base. However a report from Turf Culture showed that they were suffering from a lack of water, and to overcome this problem it was recommended that soak hoses be used for up to 15 hours a day on each green to allow the water to soak in rather than to run off. It transpired that pure sand greens were no longer desirable and that some relief could be obtained by using a sand/peat mix when coring to achieve better water retention.

Efforts were made early in 1995 to resolve issues between the Midweek and Weekend Ladies regarding the timing of the Ladies Annual General Meeting, the Weekend Ladies feeling that work commitments precluded them from being present.

A new men's tee was built on the second hole in an attempt to prevent balls from entering and damaging neighbouring properties. Trees on the left side of the fairway were also removed in an effort to make players aim their tee shots in that direction. Unfortunately every effort the Club has made to address the neighbours' problems has been to some extent negated by developments in Club and ball design which allow the ball to fly much further and much higher, and in many cases much wider.

Deficiencies in the Club's approach to Health and Safety legislation were identified in 1995 and to address these a Health, Safety and Environment Committee was established under the chairmanship of Warren Leitch.

Maungakiekie hosted the 1995 New Zealand Boys Championship on the first three days of September. Paul Reeves was the tournament controller and assembled a large team to help make the tournament a success. In true Maungakiekie spirit the boys were well looked after, being picked up from the airport, being billeted by members, attending a "Meet and Greet" on the evening before the tournament, being offered a sightseeing tour of Auckland, and being supplied with plenty of food, including 600 hamburgers. Unfortunately the weather leading into the tournament had been terrible and spotters were spread all over the course to deal with suckered balls. Nicholas Riddell won the event by two shots.

At the November Committee Meeting it was decided that as M Rasmussen's golfing days were over, that he be made an Honorary Life Member. I Fricker, who had looked after the juniors for a

considerable time, was also made an Honorary Life Member at the December Committee meeting.

Construction of the new 9<sup>th</sup> green (the present 8<sup>th</sup> green) commenced in November 1995. Unlike the previous two new greens this would be based on a sand/peat mix topped with compost.

It is difficult to believe that the totara hedge which so effectively separates the present 8<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> tees was only planted in 1996. The rapid growth of this hedge has been amazing.

The early part of 1996 was spent preparing to celebrate the Club's first 50 years at the present course. The celebrations were well attended and many positive thoughts were expressed in respect of what had been achieved by the Club in those 50 years.

Maungakiekie hosted the Auckland Strokeplay Championship in September on the first two days of fine weather for many weeks. As usual all arrangements worked well with many volunteers on the course. The initial Roskill Classic was played at Labour Weekend with the first round being played at Akarana on the Saturday and the second round followed by prizegiving at Maungakiekie on the Sunday. This proved to be a popular event and returned a profit of \$1250 to the Club. Under the agreement with Akarana the days would alternate each year to enable each Club to benefit from the Sunday prizegiving.

Natalie Bratkowski at the tender age of 14 won the Ladies Championship, becoming the youngest winner of that title. Jessie Hamilton has since won the Ladies Championship at the age of 13. In 1999 Natalie represented New Zealand in the Junior Tasman Trophy, which was played against Australia.

The issue of the Ladies Constitution being at variance with the Club Constitution was raised at the November 1996 Committee meeting. It was decided that the matter be referred to the Ladies Committee to discuss the situation.

At the 1996 Annual General Meeting it was decided that the incoming Committee should appoint a Steering Committee to produce a three year plan which would include a review of the present Club

management efficiency, investigation of the management of the Club by a Board, a review of member facilities, the need for any course improvements, and to determine the best utilisation of the Club's present assets and property. A leaflet was circulated to members seeking expressions of interest, following which a Steering Committee of K Savory, M Cumming, J Christian, P Schmetzer, M Cameron and G Vipond was appointed.

Our Professional, Chris McLaren resigned his post in June 1997 after 10 successful and popular years with the Club. His replacement was Mr Ian Peters.

A new well was drilled in the area behind the greenkeeper's garage. Its outputs were very encouraging and approval was given to proceed to the next stage of developing it into a permanent bore.

The Steering Committee took steps to gather information which would assist it in the various tasks that it was expected to address. Interviews were held with staff and well attended focus groups were held with members to allow them to provide their views. The focus groups covered a wide range of subjects such as the golf course, the issue of having a Board instead of a Committee, and the identification of areas of land that may need to be developed or sold off to provide the Club with quality amenities for the future. One focus group involved the junior members of the Club who had some clear directions as to what the future course should look like.

Unfortunately there was a difference of views between the Committee and the Steering Committee, with the Committee seeking full information from the Steering Committee before the Steering Committee had reached its conclusions on the content of its report. In particular the Committee was finding difficulty in preparing its budgets for the following year without knowing the implications of what might appear in the Steering Committee's report. The situation was resolved at the Annual General Meeting when it was decided that the Steering Committee's report should be discussed in full at a Special General Meeting to be held in March 1998. Early in 1998 a series of productive meetings was held between the Steering Committee and the Committee, which led to agreement as to the motions that would be put to

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the members at the Special General Meeting.

At the Special General Meeting it was decided that “the meeting agree to the preparation of Master Plans for; (1) Course, (2) Drainage, (3) Irrigation, (4) Property Assets (5) Building Assets, (6) Administrative Systems. “ Following the Special General Meeting a number of meetings were held between the Committee and the Steering Committee to arrange the engagement of the specialist advice that would be necessary to advance the preparation of the Master Plans. Dave Harman, designer of the new Kauri Cliffs golf course was engaged to prepare a Master Plan for the golf course and Bruce White was engaged to prepare a Master Plan for future developments along the main drain. More focus groups were held with members as the Master Plans were being developed, and it soon became clear that members were in favour of the existing Committee structure being replaced with a Board structure.

A Special General Meeting attended by 66 members was held in September 1998 to change the Rules of the Club to provide for a Board structure. This provided sufficient time for the changes to be approved by the Registrar of Incorporated Societies before the Annual General Meeting in November.

Tenders for finishing the lower carparking area were advertised in early 1998 with the contract being awarded to Auckland Earthmovers at a price of \$54,000.

Natalie Bratkowski was selected to participate in a tournament which preceded the 1998 World Cup contest at Gulf Harbour. As she was going to be able to play a few holes with Prince Andrew it was decided that a copy of the photograph of Edward Prince of Wales playing at One Tree Hill in 1920 would be made, and that she would present it to the Prince.

It was noted at the October Committee meeting that the games room, which had been so popular in the 1970s and 1980s was not being utilised anymore. Many factors could have influenced this downturn, including the growing popularity of pool in preference to the longer game of snooker, the falling away of evening patronage in the Clubhouse and the improvement in televised sporting events, particularly on Friday nights. A campaign which was instigated to encourage members to take more interest in this area met with little success. At the 1998 Annual General Meeting the formalities of moving to a Board structure were completed. Mr K Savory became President and Chairperson of the Board, A McKendry became Mens Club Captain,

which made him a member of the Board and chairperson of the Golf Committee, Mrs E S Murphy became Ladies Club Captain, which made her a member of the Board and of the Golf Committee, and Messrs B Brown, N Chandler and G Vipond became the three other members of the Board. The first meeting of the Board appointed B Brown as Treasurer as required by the new Club Rules.

Bud McPhatter announced his resignation as Manager at the February Board meeting and was replaced by Mr B (Brian) Andrews in May. Bud had been Secretary and Manager of the Club for 10 years during a period where there had been a number of quite serious internal differences within the Executive and Committee.

One of the first decisions of the new Board was to appoint starter marshals who would collect green fees and manage the start sheet. Despite offers to reimburse him for lost income this was not acceptable to the professional Mr Peters, who resigned his position in March. Temporary arrangements were made with Auckland City Golf Course Ltd to provide services to members through the golf shop. Murray Young was engaged as the Club's professional in October 2000 but left that position in May 2001.

A Special General Meeting of 116 members was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 1999 where it was decided that the Harman Master Plan for the course be approved and adopted. Proposals for the first stage of its implementation were presented along with details as to how it would be managed and financed. Some members considered that more work on its implementation should be undertaken in the first phase, but the Board held the view that at all times members should be able to have a full eighteen holes available for play. After considerable discussion the programme of works was approved.

Tenders were called for the first phase of the course work which involved turning the old 8<sup>th</sup> hole into a par four hole (the present 7<sup>th</sup> hole) and building a new 5<sup>th</sup> green on the far side of the creek. The firm of Golf Course Management was successful and a contract was entered into with them on a labour only basis which covered professional advice as well as sowing of the greens and the “growing in “period. Formation of the greens, tees and fairways was undertaken by experienced contractors who had undertaken the same role at Kauri Cliffs. The Club's interests would be the responsibility of Mr M Cameron, who had been a member of the Steering Committee and who had project managed the construction of the Gulf Harbour course.

The number two bore (behind the greenkeeper's garage) was commissioned and connected to the storage tanks, and arrangements were made to address problems with the No 1 bore which was producing only one third of its usual output. During this period the Club was forced to supplement the water supply by activating the connection with the Regional Council's main in Hillsborough Road which had so wisely been installed in earlier years.

During 1999 a sub-committee was set up to investigate major improvements to the kitchen area, which was not up to modern catering and food handling standards. This work was necessary to enable quality catering to be available to the corporate functions that would be attracted to the Club by the course improvements and the marketing campaign. Two thirds of the estimated \$120,000 cost of the improvements was expected to be met from grants. A contract was let in 2000 with Mr J (John) Murphy acting as project manager. John ensured that the work was completed to high standards by January 2001.

Play of the new 7<sup>th</sup> hole commenced in mid November 1999, with the new 5<sup>th</sup> green following soon after. It was played as a par 3 hole from the edge of the 7<sup>th</sup> fairway while the 5<sup>th</sup> fairway and stream were being worked on. The new 5<sup>th</sup> fairway was in play at the end of March 2000 with the new 13<sup>th</sup> hole being available in May. Between February and April 2000 the present 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> holes were built, along with the new 4<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> greens. For this last phase an arrangement was reached with Golf Course Management whereby one of our greens staff would work with them at Gulf Harbour and one of their staff would work with our greens staff to provide more expertise in the growing in of the new work. By the end of 2000 all eight new greens and holes were in play.

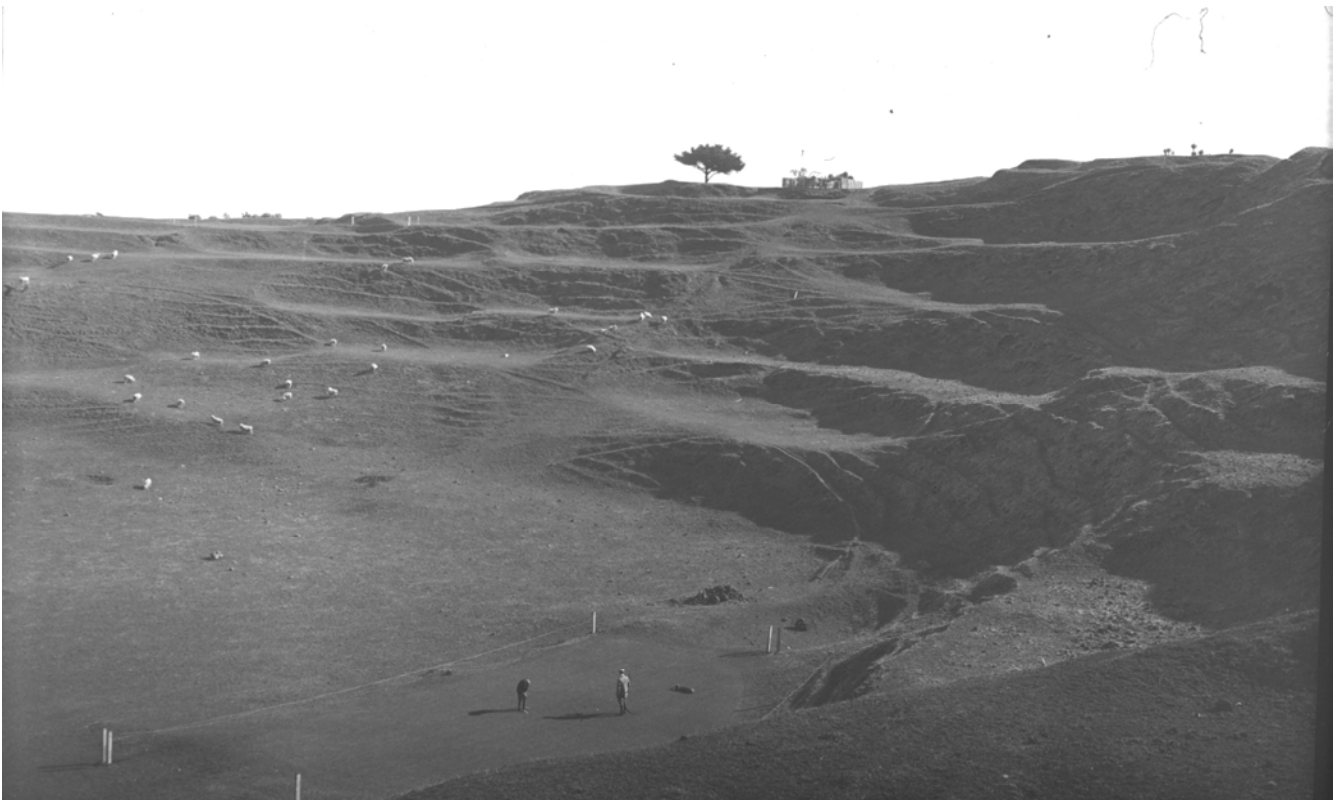
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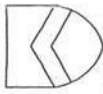


*Putting on the Ampitheatre green.  
The tee was near the white structure at the top of the crater.  
(Special Collections, Auckland City Libraries (NZ)1-W1227)*



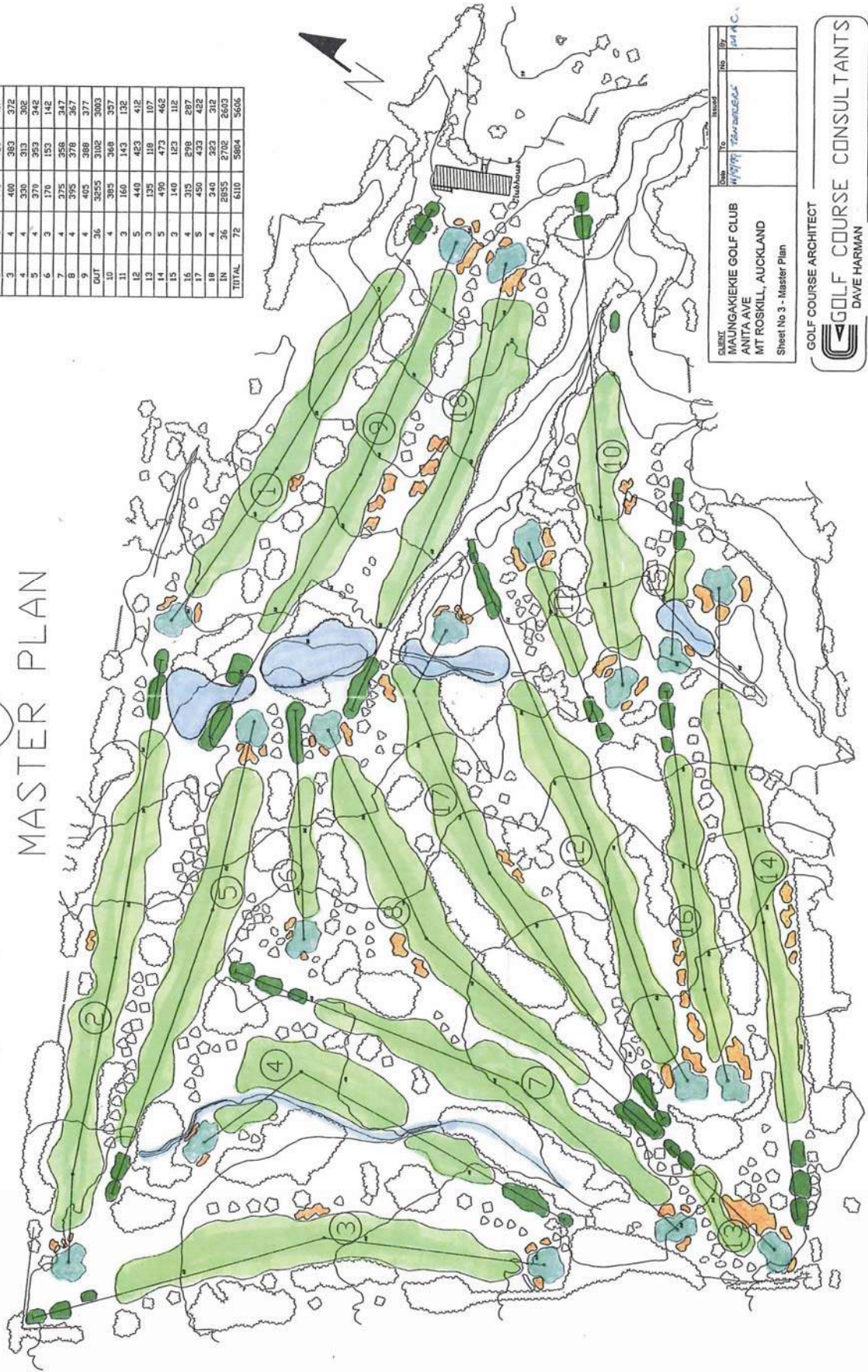
*Putting on the East Crater green.  
Jacob's Ladder hole in the background, slightly left of centre  
(Special Collections, Auckland City Libraries (NZ)1-W1223)*

# MAUNGAKIEKIE GOLF CLUB



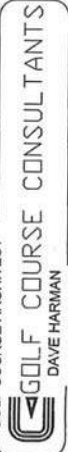
## MASTER PLAN

HOLE	PAR	PROPOSED SCORECARD		
		BLUE METERS	WHITE METERS	RED METERS
1	4	365	348	337
2	5	445	468	417
3	4	400	393	372
4	4	390	383	362
5	4	370	359	342
6	3	170	153	142
7	4	375	358	347
8	4	375	378	367
9	4	405	388	377
GUT	36	3655	3002	3003
10	4	385	368	357
11	3	160	143	132
12	5	440	423	412
13	3	195	118	107
14	5	490	473	462
15	3	140	123	112
16	4	315	298	287
17	5	450	433	422
18	4	340	323	312
IN	36	2885	2702	2603
TOTAL	72	6110	5804	5606



CLIENT	MAUNGAKIEKIE GOLF CLUB	Date	To	Issued	No	By
	ANITA AVE	14/07/19				
	MT ROSKILL, AUCKLAND					
	Sheet No 3 - Master Plan					

GOLF COURSE ARCHITECT



The Dave Harman Master Plan





*Building the new 13<sup>th</sup> green, 1999*



*The first four to play the new 7<sup>th</sup> hole  
L to R: Peter Berghan, Barry O'Meara, Gordon Allen and Jack Robinson.*





*The new 5<sup>th</sup> green, late 1999.*



*The new 15<sup>th</sup> hole completed in 2000.*



## Beyond 2000...

**A** Special General Meeting was held in July 2000 to seek “approval to proceed with the sale of the residentially zoned land at the end of Anita Avenue at an appropriate time, the proceeds of the sale to be used exclusively for repayment of debt relating to the course redevelopment project.” After a wide ranging discussion it was agreed that the sale of that land should proceed.

By September 2000 discussions had been held with representatives from the Mt Roskill Rotary Club, who were prepared to undertake modifications to the games room to enable it to be used for their meetings and also for the Club to use as a small conference facility. Discussions had also been held with Golf Course Maintenance with a view to taking over the maintenance of the whole course before any further construction works on the Master Plan commenced. This contract was in place by November 2000, with the previous greens staff now being employees of Golf Course Maintenance.

At the 2001 Annual General Meeting three issues were discussed at length. A notice of motion that a feasibility study of land fronting Hillsborough Road be undertaken prior to the sale of land at the end of Anita Avenue was lost. A further notice of motion that the sale of the Anita Avenue land be conducted by tender with a minimum net return to the Club of \$500,000 was also lost. Although the Board had made a decision to defer the next stage of work on the course it was decided that minor additional work as detailed in the Annual Report could proceed. After two summers of enduring long dusty walks between holes and playing a number of temporary holes this was seen as giving the members the opportunity to play a stable course. In general business there was considerable criticism of the manner in which the Board had entered into the contract with Golf Course Maintenance.

A focus group of more than 60 members was held in March 2001 to discuss the Mt Roskill Rotary Club's proposals for the games room. The meeting was divided on this issue and it was decided to send flyers to each member to indicate their approval or otherwise. Response to the flyers

was very good with 287 being returned, 183 being in favour of the Rotary Club proposal and 104 being opposed to it. After reviewing the feedback in the flyers the Board decided to inform the Rotary Club that it would be deferring the project for twelve months and that a review of the Club's requirements for that area would be undertaken.

As Keith Plowman had achieved the incredible feat of 500 “Wait for Age” rounds it was decided to hold a function to honour that achievement.

In May 2001 the Club received a letter from its bankers expressing concern at the Club's finances and requesting that no further work be undertaken on the course upgrade until such time as it could satisfy the bank of its ability to meet its financial commitments, either by increasing income or by decreasing expenditure. Following a response from the Treasurer the bank's account manager attended the July Board meeting and was impressed with the Club's intention to hold a marketing drive to attract more members.

At the May Board meeting a letter was received from Mr B Andrews resigning his position as General Manager. He was replaced by Pam Cox on a temporary basis until her appointment as Manager in September 2001. It was also decided to advertise for a Golf Director rather than appoint another professional. Mr M Fry was duly appointed and commenced duties at the end of October, but left the Club's employ in May 2002.

During the September Board meeting a proposal was put forward by a member that Life Memberships be awarded to Mrs T (Thelma) Mullins and to Mr J (Jim) Christian in recognition of their long and valuable service to the Club. The votes were unanimous and Thelma and Jim became Life Members of the Club. Unfortunately Thelma passed away two months after being informed of her Life Membership. At the Annual General Meeting the Club's Patron, Mr Lew Goad, presented Life Members badges to Jim Christian and to Thelma's daughter, Noeline.

In April 2002 the new kitchen was just over a year old, and with the succession of caterers that had been employed over that period many of the

machines had developed faults which needed attention. As most of the machines were outside their warranty period it was decided that a preventative maintenance contract was essential to ensure that the equipment was always in good working order.

During the past few years the neighbours adjacent to the second fairway had continued to make requests to the Club to do something about the golf balls that get hit into their properties. The Captain and President met them in the Clubhouse and an agreed solution was reached which was to move the tee to the old top tee. However when this solution was reported to the Committee it was found that it had been tried before and had not worked. In July it was decided that an out of bounds line should be marked on the fairway to encourage players to aim away from the fenceline, and in October a payment of \$1,000 was made to one of the complainants to cover the cost of installing toughened glass in his conservatory.

Title for the Anita Avenue land was finally obtained and the auction date was set for 25<sup>th</sup> May 2002. To everyone's surprise the bidding went to \$850,000 with a settlement date of 26<sup>th</sup> August 2002. As the Club had transferred its National Bank accounts to the Auckland Savings Bank in May the net proceeds of the sale of \$720,000 were paid to the Savings Bank to reduce debt.

Agreement was reached with the Mt Roskill Rotary Club on a new proposal which would see the whole cost of the games room conversion being met by the Rotarians. Under that agreement they would be able to have free use of the room for their meetings for 12 years with the Club allowing them free use of the golf course for a charity tournament twice a year.

By August 2002 there had been a number of developments regarding the contract with Golf Course Maintenance. Firstly there had been a split between the two owners of that company, which resulted in each one expressing an interest in bidding for the upcoming maintenance contract. Secondly a group of members had called for a Special General Meeting to be held to consider whether or not the contract with Golf Course Maintenance should be continued. Unfortunately the record of this meeting does not

appear in the minutes but it is clear that it was decided that the contract would not be renewed and that the greens staff would once again become employees of the Club. Arrangements were put in place to ensure an orderly handover from Golf Course Maintenance to the Club at the end of the year.

Mr N (Noel) Kelly was appointed as Golf Co-ordinator in August 2002 and is still providing valuable service to members seven years later.

The Manager's report to the October Board meeting gave an extremely clear picture of the Club's financial position. It stated that in 2002 the Club had been given a two year reprieve by the Auckland Savings Bank and by 2004 the Club would need to prove that membership has increased considerably, that expenditure is no longer exceeding income, and that there is a plan in place to enable payments on the outstanding debt to commence.

At the 2002 Annual General Meeting the Club faced the unprecedented situation of having nobody nominated for the position of President. Nominations were called from the floor and Mr D (Dave) Dunningham agreed to fill that role. Similarly Mr C (Chris) Winstanley was nominated from the floor to become Men's Vice-Captain. Mrs E (Ethel) Tomkins, who had previously been a Board Member in her capacity as Ladies Captain, stood for an independent position on the Board and was duly elected, thus becoming the first woman to have become a Board member in that manner. Her election meant that for the first time there would be two ladies on the Board.

Dave Dunningham must have wondered what had hit him when Pam Cox announced her resignation as General Manager in December, effective as from 31<sup>st</sup> January 2003. Pam was however happy to stay at the Club in an administrative role. Noel Kelly was offered the position of General Manager, which he accepted.

Under the Rules of the Club a Treasurer would have been elected at the first Board meeting. There is however no mention of this in the minutes and it may be assumed that Mr G (Graeme) Hewin who was appointed as a part time Financial Controller actually undertook that role. Another

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**Mt Roskill Rotary Club**

appointment made was that of Dennis Clark as teaching professional. He would provide free coaching for the Club's pennant teams and juniors in exchange for free use of the golf course.

Mr N Kelly resigned as General Manager in August 2003 and was replaced by Mr L (Laurie) Flynn. Noel went back into the golf shop as Golf Co-ordinator.

In the years between 1902 and the present time the burden of the Club's debt meant that successive Boards were not in a position to undertake any significant projects either on the course or within the Clubhouse. Consequently there is very little to report on when compared to the efforts of previous Boards and Committees. This can be regarded as an encouraging sign, showing that our recent administrators have had to take positive steps to curb unnecessary spending while still doing enough to attract new members and visitors to our course. Unfortunately in 2004 the Board was again unable to appoint a Treasurer from within its ranks and the question needs to be asked as to whether this position should be one that is elected by the membership at large rather than one elected by the Board. By April 2004 Mr A (Alan) Whittaker had offered to assist the Board with the necessary financial support.

In January 2004 Maungakiekie hosted the North Island Under-19 tournament. By all accounts this was a great success and was much appreciated by the New Zealand Golf officials.

At the February Board meeting a proposal was put forward by a member that Life Memberships be awarded to Mr G B (Bud) McPhatter and to Mr G R (Garth) Vipond in recognition of their long and valuable service to the Club. The votes were unanimous and Bud and Garth became Life Members of the Club. Life membership badges were presented to Bud and Garth at the Morpeth Bowl auction evening.

The resignation of the Club Captain in April 2004 saw Mr C (Chris) Winstanley move up from being Vice Captain to become Club Captain, a position he has held to the present day. This was followed by the resignation of the President and one of the Board members four months later. Mrs E (Ethel) Tomkins assumed the role of President, becoming the first lady President since the Club was formed.

The good news at the April Board meeting was that the Auckland Savings Bank had agreed to allow the Club to pay interest only on our loan for a further 12 months. Further good news arrived in

September with Mr B (Bob) Brown being co-opted to the Board and taking over the role of Treasurer. Mr Brown was quickly able to ascertain that financially the Club had become stagnant with no growth in membership and green fees, making it difficult to plan for machinery replacement, plant and other essential development. His view was that long term growth needed to be a key focus for the Club.

At the November 2004 Board meeting it was proposed that Life Membership be awarded to Mrs I (Irene) Ward in recognition of her long and valuable service to the Club. On a unanimous vote Irene became a Life Member of the Club.

With the Smoke-free Environment Act soon to become law the Board decided that no tobacco products were to be sold at the Club, and that the designated area for smoking would be on the balcony.

The new owner of the Anita Avenue property sought approval of the Club to access the course and complete stormwater works in accordance with the agreement that the Club had entered into with the original purchasers. That agreement was not acceptable to the Board, who imposed a \$60,000 course access fee, a requirement that the purchasers of each site sold would receive a free one year membership to the Club (payable by the new owner), as well as a bond to ensure the work was completed as per the original specifications. Discussions were held with the new owner, who was not happy with the new agreement. This issue was finally resolved when the new owner was able to have his drainage project incorporated in a wider Council drainage project thus avoiding the conditions which the Board had sought to impose. Having resolved the drainage issue the new owner then approached the Board with a proposal to purchase additional land adjacent to the 15<sup>th</sup> hole. Another party also expressed an interest in the purchase of this land.

In August 2005 Pam Cox announced her resignation from the administration role she had filled for the previous 18 months. The Board thanked her for the tremendous efforts she had provided for the Club during difficult times.

At the October 2005 Board meeting agreement was reached with the New Zealand Community Trust regarding a proposal which involved the Trust putting its own machines in the in the Clubhouse at an agreed rental, rather than the Club having to be committed to a substantial capital outlay to upgrade its own machines.

At the 2005 Annual General Meeting there were no nominations for the Mens Vice-Captain position or for the three Golf Committee positions. The three Golf Committee positions were filled by nominations from the floor but nobody was prepared to accept the Men's Vice-Captain position. A notice of motion regarding the sale of land adjacent to the 15<sup>th</sup> hole was introduced and members were shown plans of the area in question. When the effects that this would have on the Harman Master Plan were explained to the members, along with the risks and costs involved in achieving the necessary rezoning of that land, an amendment was moved and carried which required the Board to obtain a report from a reputable golf course architect regarding the effect that the proposal would have on the Master Plan, and to obtain a detailed report identifying the processes, costs and risks to the Club in the rezoning and subdivision of that land. The amendment also required the Board to circulate the above information to members at least two weeks before any General or Special General Meeting convened for the purpose of giving the Board authority to sell the land.

A further motion allowing the Board to deviate from the Harman Master Plan where a clear benefit to the Club was evident was carried after having been amended to provide for any such deviation to be posted in the Clubhouse two months before work commences to allow members to make submissions.

At the January 2006 Board meeting consideration was given to the reports that had been required by the Annual General Meeting relating to the sale of additional land adjacent to the 15<sup>th</sup> hole. After considering reports from Chris Pitman (golf architect), Auckland City Council Planning Managers and legal advice, it was decided that the Board should not proceed any further with this proposal.

Engineers representing Auckland City Council and Metrowater had inspected the main drain through the property for the purpose of identifying possible ponding options. This issue had been under discussion with the Council for many years with respective consultants giving the Club mixed messages regarding options offered by the golf course property. Some reports indicated that stormwater should be moved through our property as quickly as possible while other reports saw merit in using ponds on the course to retain stormwater on a temporary or permanent basis to avoid flooding in downstream areas. The Club's response to these proposals had always preferred

options which would overcome the regular and expensive flooding of the pumphouse and which, in the event of ponds being constructed, would not interfere with golfing activities or involve the Club in high maintenance costs.

Drainage works associated with the new development adjacent to the 15<sup>th</sup> hole were undertaken as part of the wider Council stormwater project. Difficulties with the design of the entrance of the new pipe with the main stream were overcome and there has been no noticeable erosion of the banks of the stream. The Council also repaired the broken pipes under the causeway on the 9<sup>th</sup> hole and installed a permanent wing wall.

A third cell phone tower behind the 4<sup>th</sup> green was approved, providing another source of income for the Club. Plans to build a lookout tower at the men's 14<sup>th</sup> tee were scrapped in favour of installing a Golfscope.

Keith Plowman achieved the milestone of having played 1,000 rounds of golf scoring his age or better. His last 500 rounds in this category had taken him only 5 years at an average of two per week. Well done Keith. A social evening was held to celebrate this event, and Keith was made a Life Member of the Club in appreciation of his achievements.

Removal of pine trees that were either having a detrimental effect on the course or becoming a danger to players was discussed at the June 2006 Board meeting. The Board is to be congratulated on taking the brave step of imposing a levy of \$50 per member (excluding juniors) to enable this work to proceed. Removal of the pines allowed fairways to dry out to the benefit of both the members and the greens staff. Native trees are to be planted in the areas where the pines have been removed.

Maungakiekie hosted the Auckland Strokeplay Championship on the 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> August, the greens staff presenting a course which was in excellent condition. The Club also hosted the very successful woman's Auckland Champion of Champions tournament on 20th November.

Major reconstruction of Hillsborough Road was undertaken over the summer, with the Board allowing the contractor, Fulton Hogan, to park their machinery inside our boundary near the cell phone towers for the duration of the contract. Fulton Hogan's appreciation of this gesture was to lay a number of bitumen paths on the course at no cost to the Club.



In April 2007 the Southern Community Trust wrote to the Club indicating that they wished to remove the gaming machines because they were not financially viable. The Board rejected this proposal asking that the machines remain for the remaining 18 months of the agreement. It was subsequently found that the Trust had the right to remove the machines and they did so during August. At the August Board meeting it was agreed that six machines be purchased, to be financed through the Auckland Savings Bank. The same meeting also agreed that two Toro mowers be purchased using Auckland Savings Bank finance.

A letter of resignation was received from the General Manager Mr Flynn at the June Board meeting. The Board wished him every success in his new position at the Pupuke Golf Club. Mr M (Mark) Thompson was appointed as the new General Manager.

During 2007/2008 considerable progress was made in the receipt of grants from charitable trusts, which allowed formation of more sealed paths to proceed as well as replacement of the main Clubhouse windows with aluminium joinery. These grants are very difficult to obtain and many rejections are received before a successful application eventuates.

In July 2008 the Board appointed a Centenary Committee comprising G Vipond, J Christian, C Winstanley, L Ripley and the General Manager to arrange a programme for the celebration of the Club's first 100 years based on the 5<sup>th</sup> October 1909 formation date. This committee was certain

that it could raise sufficient funding for the celebrations without having to draw on the Club's resources. During the next 12 months W Lindsay, B Raynes, B Thomson and C Thomson were added to the committee, which initially met monthly, increasing to fortnightly and weekly meetings closer to the celebrations.

Also in July the Board endorsed the introduction of a lifetime membership based on a one-off \$20,000 payment. At the time of writing there appear to have been no takers for this form of membership.

Jesse Hamilton won the 2008 Ladies Senior Championship at the age of 13, becoming the youngest player to have won that event.

During 2009 progress was made on achieving closer golfing links with our neighbouring Clubs, Akarana and Titirangi. A \$20 green fee for Akarana and Maungakiekie members to play midweek at the other Club's course was the first action to be put in place.

It is clear that in the near future the Club will need to take positive steps to reduce its debt. In the past this had been achieved by the sale of land which was not required for golfing purposes. There are land sale options where the quality of the course can be maintained and every opportunity should be taken to investigate these without increasing our level of debt. One thing is clear - we owe it to those who have fought so hard in the past to keep the Maungakiekie spirit alive, to work together to ensure that the Club can face the next 100 years with some certainty.

# Four Great Champions...

**I**n the 100 year history of Maungakiekie the Men's Senior Championship has at the time of writing been played on 88 occasions. Three players, Rex George (9 times), Joe Pelham (10 times) and Mike Leitch (18 times) have between them won 37 of those championships. Over the same period the Ladies Senior Championship has been played on 92 occasions, with Betty Bridger having won that title 19 times. The biographies that follow provide an insight into the great talents that these four players possessed.

## Rex George

Rex George joined the Maungakiekie Golf Club in June 1912. He won the Club's first Junior Grade Championship in 1912 and quickly progressed to senior ranks. He was the first winner of the Kingswell Shield in 1913. His first win in the Senior Championships was in 1919 and between then and 1924 he won that title four more times, losing only to J L Clark at the 36<sup>th</sup> hole in 1921. His victories in that period were by emphatic margins, winning by 15 and 14 against A Fairburn in 1919 and 14 and 12 against E L Bartleet in 1924. Bartleet was a very accomplished tennis player and golfer who went on to win the Auckland Golf Club's Senior Championship three times. George's smallest winning margin in those five wins was 6 and 5. He also won the Auckland Provincial Championship in 1919 and 1920 and was a multiple winner of the South Auckland Championships which were played in the Waikato area.

Between 1925 and the separation of the Clubs in 1930 George found the competition a bit tougher. He qualified in the top 16 each year, was beaten in the final twice and was also beaten in the semi-final twice by the eventual winner. George served on the Club's committee for over eight years between 1922 and 1931 and held many posts representing the Titirangi course. By the time the last joint Committee meeting was held in February 1931 he had obviously decided to join the new Maungakiekie Club.

After the separation Rex George did not offer himself as a member of the executive for the new Maungakiekie Golf Club. He did however accept the post of Match Secretary at a salary of £1.10.0 per week, and was on a subcommittee who were to report back on Redhead's scheme for the further development of the course at Cornwall Park. Within a few months he also accepted the position of handicapper and by the end of 1931 he had taken over supervision of the work necessary to implement Redhead's scheme.

In 1931 George was also the Club's delegate at the NZ Golf Association AGM in Christchurch and was one of three delegates at the 1933 AGM. In 1932 he and J. M. Elliffe attended meetings of delegates from all Auckland Clubs to discuss the introduction of Pennant matches, and the formation of a local Association.

George still found time to play good golf, winning the new Club's Senior Championship in 1931, 1932, 1933 and 1936. In 1931 and 1932 he also won the unofficial Auckland Champion of Champions contest. The official Champion of Champions Trophy was not played for until after the new Association had determined its playing conditions in December 1935.

Rex George's work on the improvements to the course was greatly appreciated by the Club. At the Annual General Meeting in March 1932 he was presented with a silver tea service for the work he had done over summer on constructing new greens and bunkering. In 1935 his duties as Match Secretary and Handicapper were taken over by the Secretary in order that George could focus on course development in a consulting capacity at an annual fee of £21 plus the annual subscriptions for both he and Mrs George. In 1936 this was modified to the extent that he would be paid a fee for each consultation plus the payment of the annual subscriptions. Sadly this was the last mention of Rex George in the Club's minutes, and like Kingswell some 20 years earlier he was allowed to fade away without the recognition he deserved. It is known that since 1931 he had retained a limited membership at Titirangi and in 1937 he became a full member of that Club.

## **Joe Pelham**

Joe Pelham joined Maungakiekie as a junior member with Saturday playing rights in July 1934 and was given a provisional handicap of 6 by the then handicapper Rex George. In his youth Joe worked for a time in Tom Galloway's Pro Shop and learned the art of Club making. Joe was also an excellent musician and became the lead violinist in the Auckland Grammar School orchestra and in the Aeolian Orchestra after leaving school. Hard times in the 1930's forced him to join the family's wood working business which specialised in ladders. He won his first senior championship at Cornwall Park in 1937 while still a junior, and became a Full Playing member in May 1938.

Joe joined the Air Force and a combination of World War II and the eviction of the Club from Cornwall Park saw him deprived of serious golf until 1946 when the new course was opened at Mt Roskill. He then went on to win the Club Championships a further nine times between 1947 and 1963. His 1951 win was followed by a runaway 15 shot win in the Auckland Champion of Champions match at Titirangi. In the same year he won a bronze medal in the New Zealand Amateur Championships at Bridge Pa. Joe represented Auckland many times and was regarded as one of the best iron players in the country. It is a testament to his ability that when health problems forced him to retire from golf he was on a handicap of seven, having played the whole of his 60-year career on single figures.

As well as being a great golfer Joe found time to serve the Club as an administrator and was elected to the Committee in 1949 and 1950. He went to Limited Membership for three years from 1954 to 1957 and became a Full Playing member again in 1957, before being elected to the Committee again from 1958 to 1960.

In 1986 Joe was made an honorary Life Member of the Club. Although he was no longer playing golf he took an active interest; he was still a regular visitor to the Clubhouse and took an active interest in the fortunes of the pennant team. On a personal note, I will never forget the enjoyable times that Joe and I had in the year that he caddied for me in the Bissett competition.

## **Betty Bridger**

Betty was a very keen sportswoman and apart from her golfing exploits she excelled in hockey and softball, representing Auckland in both codes and also becoming an umpire in those codes. She

joined Maungakiekie in 1955 and won the first of her nineteen Ladies Senior Championships in 1957. Five years elapsed before she won her second Championship but from that point on she was almost unstoppable, winning seven consecutive titles. In the 23 years between and 1962 and 1984 she won the Ladies championship 18 times.

Betty also had success away from Maungakiekie, winning the Northland Open in the 1960's, the Rotorua Open in 1969 and 1979, and the New Zealand Ladies Veterans Tournament at Sherwood Park in 1995.

As well as playing great golf, Betty was the Weekend Ladies Secretary for 25 years and was a member of the Club's Committee for 8 years, from 1977 to 1985. In that role Betty will be remembered for her ability to sum up the feeling of the meeting and to come up with sound logic and clear recommendations.

In recognition of her services to the Club Betty was made a Life Member in 1996.

## **Mike Leitch**

Mike's first experience at Maungakiekie was in 1960 when he caddied for a number of senior members. He joined the Club as a 14 year old junior boy and it soon became obvious to all that we were watching the development of a rare golfing talent. In 1967 he joined the greens staff as an apprentice and he had his first game as a member of the Senior Pennant Team in 1968. One can only wonder at how many times he has represented the Club since then. Michael won his first senior championship in 1969 and by 1975 he had already won the first six of his eighteen championship titles. At this stage he seriously considered a career as a professional golfer and was granted extended leave to pursue that path. After three months he was back at Maungakiekie working as a greenkeeper and took over the Head Greenkeeper's position in July 1975 when Bill Walton left the Club to go to Te Awamutu.

As well as trying to meet the needs of a hundreds of bosses who all had differing opinions on the standard of course maintenance Mike managed to win thirteen of the sixteen senior championships that were played between 1969 and 1984. That run came to an end when his brother Warren defeated him in a play-off after both golfers had carded four identical rounds. His total of eighteen senior championships between 1969 and 1999 is not likely to be broken by a male golfer, although

Betty Bridger managed nineteen wins in the Ladies senior championships. Mike's consistency has seen him win most of the Club's trophies including the Club Foursomes Championship with a variety of partners.

In addition to his many wins at Maungakiekie Mike has been successful at both provincial and national level. He was a semi-finalist in the 1988 New Zealand Amateur Championship, and won the North Island Championship in 1990, followed by the Wellington Stroke Play Championship in 1991. Back in 1973 he won the Auckland Provincial Championship and has won the Auckland Anniversary Tournament five times since 1969.

Mike has been a regular member of Auckland representative teams since 1971 with seven years in the provincial team that played for the former Freyberg Rosebowl and Tower tournaments. To date he has been a member of the Auckland Masters team for 12 years and was the winner of the first Auckland Masters title. Representing New Zealand three times at Senior (55 years of age and over) level has been one of Mike's greatest achievements and there is little doubt that his fluid swing will see him in that team for many years to come.

## Tributes...

**D**uring the 100 year history of the Club there have been hundreds of members who have willingly given up their time to serve the Club and in many instances the administration and promotion of golf at district and national level.

There are those who have special skills which see them rise to executive level. These are the members who tend to be at the heart of the Club's operations. They are the members who become Presidents and Club Captains and are required to represent the Club and make speeches at a multitude of formal occasions. Public speaking comes easily to some, not so easily to others. I take my hat off to all of them as they have all had the best interests of the Club at heart and what is most important; they have had the courage to put themselves forward for those positions.

There is a long line of members who have been placed in the position of being responsible for the Club's finances, sometimes when membership is in a growth phase and improvements can be made, and sometimes when membership is falling and improvements must of necessity be deferred. This is a position which does involve considerable risk that unexpected events can detrimentally affect the budget, turning a surplus into a loss. Machinery will unexpectedly break down and need replacing, despite having a planned programme of machinery replacement. Membership may suddenly drop, causing unexpected reductions in income. These members are the ones who have to front the bank manager when things get tough, and who have to tell convenors that there is no budget available to them. This is not an easy position to fill and all credit is due to those who have managed the Club's finances for the first 100 years.

What would we do without the Ladies Committees that has done so much great work for the Club? In the early days there were at times more lady members than men, and it is a pity that for whatever reason it is difficult to attract more ladies to become members. Almost from the start the ladies have been encouraged to run their own affairs and within their membership they have been able to develop their own executive

structures. All of this does impose additional demands on those ladies who make themselves available for those positions. Through the years the Ladies Committees have been regarded as great fundraisers for the Club, and their raffles have been responsible for many improvements that have benefited all members. How many sets of curtains have they provided, how many items of crockery and cutlery have they purchased, how many contributions to new carpet have they made? Within the ladies membership we have ladies who provide the magnificent floral arrangements in the Clubhouse and others who always turn up in force whenever we have a working bee. The list is really endless and we thank the ladies for their efforts.

The various Social Committees that have served the Club so well during the last 100 years deserve a special mention. Being able to have read through 100 years of minute books I have been amazed at the number of functions these committees have run. For many years the Club held a formal Ball, and I have seen almost every possible theme applied to the hundreds of socials that have been held. Raffles by the thousand have been held with proceeds going to the subsidising of many causes, including the socials, the games room, children's Christmas parties, and junior golf, to mention just a few. There have been some legendary raffle ticket sellers, and there were the semi-legal Special Effort functions in the early 60's. Tote tickets came and went, and there were the lucky draws that would take place on Friday nights. A trip to Australia was also arranged. The Social Committee is one where a huge commitment is required and many of the comforts we enjoy today would not have happened had it not been for the efforts of all those who participated.

Junior golf has since the early sixties played an important part in the success of the Club, both in terms of pennant team membership and providing a feeder system which provides for peewees, mintees and juniors to progress through to Full Playing membership. There has been a succession of extremely hard working Junior convenors backed up by keen parents and valuable assistance from professional golfers.

The Eagles Golfing Society is fully supportive of junior golf and Maungakiekie has traditionally had a strong Eagles presence with three of the Club's executives achieving Life Membership of the Society. With all this support our junior golf programme is consistently providing golfers who can play at the highest level and all concerned are to be thanked for their efforts.

Many of our members put themselves forward to represent the Club in inter-Club competition. When the players, the caddies, the supporters, the selectors and the managers are all taken into account over the men's, ladies' and junior teams, this represents an enormous effort by those members. This is even more evident when our teams have a home game, with starters, referees and spotters also required.

The Veterans are a group of members who play together during the week for chickens and wine. One of their great strengths is that they support one another in times of adversity, which is of enormous value as one approaches old age. They are also pretty handy on the golf course and anyone who expects to win a prize by playing a little better than their handicap will often be disappointed. As well as enjoying one another's company they, like the ladies, are great fundraisers and have contributed to many Club projects, many of them being projects conducted entirely by the Vets. Our thanks go to the Vets for everything they do for the Club.

To all those who have served on Match, House, Course and Property committees through the years the Club owes you our thanks. The Match committee in particular can get extremely hectic around Christmas with preparation of the next season's fixture book in an environment where changes invariably have to be made to accommodate changes to the dates for District and National events.

Special mention needs to be made of the staff who run the Club on a day-to-day basis. The greens staff who need to anticipate all the diseases that are waiting to hit the course, the office staff who are there to meet our every need; the staff in the golf shop who seem to be able to do anything; the bar staff who are either run off their feet or who sometimes are there by themselves; the caterers, of whom we have employed more than I had imagined; and the cleaners who tidy up the mess the members invariably leave.

Maungakiekie has always had a good supply of volunteers who are prepared at a moment's notice to drop what they are doing to attend to Club issues. These could be legal issues, a leak in the plumbing, help required in the office, some building work, electrical repairs, and so on. The list is endless and the Club thanks you for your efforts.

## Secretaries and Managers

Name	Starting Date	
J C Burns	October	1909
H A Marriner	March	1911
Dr Dudley	August	1911
G E W Morris	November	1911
M E Ward	November	1912
W J A Thomson	September	1916
M E Ward	December	1919
S Morpeth	June	1927
M E Ward	February	1930
D R Garrard	January	1931
G C A Belcher	January	1948
J Drummond	January	1953
H E Edmondson	May	1957
L J Wood	July	1959
R Severs	July	1963
W S Smith	January	1964
W Tiplady	January	1965
E J Cumming	January	1977
G Hilder	July	1982
B W Palmer	May	1988
G B McPhatter	February	1989
B Andrews	May	1999
P Cox	September	2001
N Kelly	January	2003
L Flynn	August	2003
M Thompson	June	2006

## Post 1930 Head Greenkeepers

Name	Starting Date	
Maughan	February	1931
H Hackett	April	1941
Greens Staff	September	1954
Pearce	April	1956
J Tonks	January	1964
R Townsend	June	1966
J Bourke	January	1969
W Walton	November	1970
M F Leitch	July	1975

## Maungakiekie Ladies Champions

Year	Senior Champion	Bronze Champion	Year	Senior Champion	Bronze Champion
1911	Miss Frater		1960	Mrs N Vodanovich	Mrs J Morecom
1912	Miss F Gordon		1961	Miss M L Crawford	Mrs J Erenstrom
1913	Miss F Gordon		1962	Miss B M Bridger	Mrs R Harnish
1914	Miss G Gorrie		1963	Miss B M Bridger	Mrs D Roberts
1915	Miss G Gorrie		1964	Miss B M Bridger	Mrs J Maitland
1916	Miss T I Bayly		1965	Miss B M Bridger	Mrs A Joplin
1917	Miss T I Bayly		1966	Miss B M Bridger	Mrs A Lavich
1918	Miss G Gorrie		1967	Miss B M Bridger	Mrs I Stormont
1919	Miss I B Burgess		1968	Miss B M Bridger	Mrs G Lewis
1920	Miss I B Burgess		1969	Mrs H D Craig	Mrs G Blanch
1921	Miss E Morris		1970	Miss B M Bridger	Miss J Jennings
1922	Miss T I Bayly	Mrs P Coutts	1971	Mrs H Hilliam	Miss J Jennings
1923	Miss A L Wilson	Mrs J Finlay	1972	Miss B M Bridger	Mrs A Reid
1924	Mrs R Dufaur	Mrs J Russell	1973	Miss B M Bridger	Mrs H Munro
1925	Mrs R Dufaur	Miss R McCabe	1974	Mrs H D Craig	Miss C Clark
1926	Mrs R Banister	Miss R McCabe	1975	Miss B M Bridger	Miss M Swann
1927	Miss D Horton	Mrs J Russell	1976	Miss B M Bridger	Mrs C Cambie
1928	Mrs T W Hosking	Mrs J Patterson	1977	Miss B M Bridger	Miss J Potter
1929	Miss K F Horton	Mrs H Johnston	1978	Miss C Clark	Mrs E Gow
1930	Mrs T W Hosking	Miss M Miller	1979	Miss B M Bridger	Miss N Thompson
1931	Miss K F Horton	Mrs M Hipkins	1980	Miss J Woods	Mrs T Mullins
1932	Miss K F Horton	Mrs J Gilmore	1981	Miss B M Bridger	Mrs G McLennan
1933	Mrs H V Johnston	Miss J Johnson	1982	Miss B M Bridger	Mrs V Kiddle
1934	Mrs G R Buttle	Mrs H Choyce	1983	Miss B M Bridger	Mrs S Grace
1935	Mrs H V Johnston	Mrs A Milne	1984	Miss B M Bridger	Mrs P O'Neill
1936	Mrs H V Johnston	Mrs R Aley	1985	Mrs C Russo	Mrs M Best
1937	Mrs H V Johnston	Miss J Edwards	1986	Mrs B Moor	Mrs A Gentry
1938	Mrs H V Johnston	Mrs S Haycock	1987	Mrs I E Ward	Mrs M Perrott
1939	Mrs C S Laird	Miss E Blackburn	1988	Mrs I E Ward	Mrs A Gentry
1940	Mrs V W Kerr	Miss E Blackburn	1989	Mrs H M Bradley	Mrs E Tomkins
1941	Mrs D Mc Crone	Mrs J Hyland	1990	Mrs I E Ward	Mrs F Taylor
1942		Miss C Stubbs	1991	Mrs I A Thompson	Mrs M Johnston
1943			1992	Mrs J Papuni	Mrs E Murphy
1944			1993	Mrs V J McKenna	Miss L Hunter
1945			1994	Miss R Hurley	Miss C Moxham
1946	Mrs R H Manning	Mrs D Garrard	1995	Mrs I A Thompson	Mrs H Yang
1947	Mrs R H Manning	Miss A Shaw	1996	Mrs I Thompson	Mrs E Murphy
1948	Mrs J Jerrat	Miss M Parkinson	1997	Miss N Bratowski	Mrs J Ho
1949	Miss M L Crawford	Miss D Grove	1998	Mrs I A Thompson	Mrs R Davis
1950	Mrs C Treen	Mrs H Muir	1999	Mrs M Johnston	Miss J Keber
1951	Mrs C Treen	Mrs A Turton	2000	Mrs G Benton	Mrs M Taylor
1952	Mrs R H Manning	Mrs M Parkinson	2001	Mrs I Thompson	Mrs J Gorton
1953	Mrs R H Manning	Mrs T Fleming	2002	Mrs I Thompson	Mrs E Tomkins
1954	Mrs C Treen	Mrs H Steele	2003	Mrs J Smith	Mrs M Taylor
1955	Mrs R H Manning	Mrs C Turnbull	2004	Mrs A Lawson	Mrs M Taylor
1956	Miss M L Crawford	Mrs N Vodanovich	2005	Mrs A Lawson	Miss L Fuimaono
1957	Miss B M Bridger	Mrs H McCowan	2006	Mrs J Smith	Mrs L Ripley
1958	Mrs N Vodanovich	Mrs L Edgecumbe	2007	Mrs S Harris	Mrs A Mc Kerrell
1959	Mrs N Vodanovich	Mrs S Hayward	2008	Miss J Hamilton	Mrs E Murray



## Maungakiekie Men's Champions

Year	Senior	Intermediate	Junior	C Grade
1911	R O Gardner			
1912	A B Webster		R M George	
1913	R O Gardner		Dr Dudley	
1914	N P Green		F Trice	
1915				
1916				
1917				
1918				
1919	R M George		A Le Sieur	
1920	R M George		W P Hopkins	
1921	J L Clark		F J Beehan	
1922	R M George		F C Ewan	
1923	R M George		H B Anderson	
1924	R M George		A Fairburn (T)	
1925	W L Robinson		W J Nolan (T)	
1926	T A Goulding		E G Tallis (T)	
1927	S Morpeth		H S Keesing (M)	S T Gaskin (T)
1928	J Hockin		J Gilmour (M)	L Knight (M)
1929	H Brinsden		J S Rankin (M)	A E Saunders (T)
1930	R R McCrystal		S T Gaskin (T)	L B Schnauer (M)
1931	R M George	L B Schnauer	T H Nixon	
1932	R M George	L B Schnauer	J S Milne	
1933	R M George	J D Shanly	M H Wiseman	
1934	D G MacFarlane	K M Heywood	J Caughley	
1935	J H Earle	W G Clavis	N R Obren	
1936	R M George	J S Colegrove	C Coleman	
1937	J C Pelham	K G Bartlett	G Truscott	
1938	I McOwan	N J Kidd	N B Trower	
1939	J E Stedman	F Aldred	R G Stichbury	
1940				
1941				
1942				
1943				
1944				
1945				
1946	F J Parkinson	L J Poff	L J Holzer	P L Gould
1947	J C Pelham	N W Shanly	C C Ewen	F Bridgens
1948	J D Shanly	L H Watson	J Barry	V Fray
1949	R E Clements	M T Wilson	W T Murphy	V Brooker
1950	J C Pelham	M T Wilson	W G Whitten	R T Smith
1951	J C Pelham	T R McArthur	S G Smith	D Champaloup
1952	J C Pelham	G W Lewis	L Maxwell	R Bird
1953	J D Shanly	D Budd	A D Lylia	S H Sweet
1954	J C Chapman	W T Pountney	G Brandon	M Clark
1955	F R Halsey	M D Turbott	G Heley	N Cashmore
1956	S A Davison	W A Lindegreen	A Harvey	B J Hayes
1957	L D Pointon	R P Day	L C Painter	R Martell
1958	J C Pelham	W A Lindegreen	K R Hankins	D D Theyers
1959	J C Pelham	I C Hodson	C Duthie	A A Dawson
1960	F P Botica	D L De Luca	A Mellick	D H Thurston
1961	J C Pelham	L Iga	M T Willis	R Reid
1962	J C Pelham	I W Benton	R Reid	R D Anson
1963	J C Pelham	W P Pengelly	G Robinson	R Bishop

## Men's Champions (contd)

Year	Senior	Intermediate	Junior	C Grade
1964	B R Hendry	V C Williams	D R Schubert	J W Fisher
1965	B R Hendry	W R Pengelly	F G Smith	K O Neill
1966	B R Hendry	C F Steven	J Haldane	T Best
1967	T T Guilford	T G Barnes	W S Cowperthwaite	R Kestle
1968	B R Hendry	I W Benton	P H Edmonds	E W Maddox
1969	M F Leitch	J W French	G E Watson	J F Doorman
1970	M F Leitch	G C Murray	R Reid	J Docherty
1971	B J Martin	J W French	I M Shroff	J A McKinnon
1972	M F Leitch	L A Willey	F G Smith	C Lorimer
1973	M F Leitch	A T McKendry	R Reid	C R Brazier
1974	M F Leitch	W R Pengelly	R Reid	J B Green
1975	M F Leitch	I M Thompson	W Green	W Mullen
1976	W J Hall	D A Hills	C Fishwick	C Burns
1977	M F Leitch	A T McKendry	R A Eaton	K R Harris
1978	M F Leitch	C B McPhatter	R A Eaton	R J Morgan
1979	M F Leitch	A T McKendry	W S Reid	J R Wardle
1980	M F Leitch	S D Downes	R E Rielly	T Murphy
1981	M F Leitch	J Duncan	C Murray	N Watkins
1982	S Haggie	J M Fisher	R Reid	E H Boyd
1983	M F Leitch	N Palmer	C Rainey	W R David
1984	M F Leitch	W S Reid	K Dwyer	F E Bailey
1985	W J Leitch	W S Reid	R Reid	L H Mullins
1986	G Dyer	N Palmer	E Cuneen	R V Smith
1987	R McBride	A T McKendry	W Coughlan	E Kostanich
1988	P Best	R Bagley	A Parkinson	E Kostanich
1989	M F Leitch	B Fricker	S Eddy	R Doak
1990	M F Leitch	N Palmer	R Cartwright	R Wood
1991	M F Leitch	A Kelly	W R Pengelly	P Reeves
1992	M Wheelhouse	D Wooster	D Cameron	R Clarke
1993	A Parkin	K Plowman	K Jellard	J Stairmand
1994	B Thompson	A T McKendry	T Clayton	S Booth
1995	M F Leitch	R McPhatter	W R Pengelly	B Anderson
1996	P W Montford	S W Eddy	L C Smith	J A Lynch
1997	D Kent	A Hart	G MacFarlane	R Winborne
1998	A Parkin	N I Dyer	D J Cameron	L H Mullins
1999	M F Leitch	J G Irwin	M D Gleeson	K Sherlock
2000	A Parkin	A T McKendry	J Smith	N S Chandler
2001	A Parkin	S Gates	L Smith	R Clarke
2002	A Parkin	I Thompson	W Coughlan	G Calvert
2003	A Parkin	B N Thomson	C Bentley	A Boyd
2004	A Parkin	A T McKendry	D Tong	P Davis
2005	P W Montford	Y Choi	G Berry	D Evans
2006	B Davies	Y Choi	W Kemp	A De Martin
2007	W J Leitch	A Russell	G Phoon	D Hopkins
2008	J M Leitch	Y Choi	R Neilson	B E Kent

Note: For the 1924 to 1930 Junior and C Grade Championships the (M) or (T) indicates the course that the winner of the event qualified at.

## Club Executive

## Ladies Executive

Year	President	Captain	President	Captain
1909	Sir John Logan Campbell	P T Upton		
1910	Sir John Logan Campbell	P T Upton		
1911	Sir John Logan Campbell	J C Burns		
1912	Sir John Logan Campbell	J P Ridings		Mrs T D Ball
1913	P N Kingswell	J P Ridings		Mrs Ferguson
1914	P N Kingswell	A G Cooke		Miss N Crowther
1915	P N Kingswell	G C W Morris		Miss N Crowther
1916	P N Kingswell	C Hay		Miss Martin
1917	P N Kingswell	G L Taylor		Mrs Morris
1918	G C W Morris	G L Taylor		Mrs Ridings
1919	G L Taylor	H W Cooke		Mrs Trice
1920	G L Taylor	H W Cooke		Mrs Rodger
1921	G L Taylor	H W Cooke		Miss Murray
1922	G L Taylor	R O Gardner		To be verified
1923	G L Taylor	W J A Thomson		To be verified
1924	G L Taylor	W J A Thomson		Miss M W Haslett
1925	G L Taylor	R O Gardner		Miss M W Haslett
1926	G L Taylor	R O Gardner		Mrs N E Burton
1927	G L Taylor	N McRobie		Mrs N E Burton
1928	G L Taylor	N McRobie		Mrs N E Burton
1929	G L Taylor	H M Rogerson		Mrs N E Burton
1930	C J Schnauer	J M Elliffe		Mrs N E Burton
1931	C J Schnauer	J M Elliffe		Mrs N E Burton
1932	C J Schnauer	J M Elliffe		Mrs N E Burton
1933	C J Schnauer/J M Elliffe	J M Elliffe/H Morpeth	Mrs N E Burton	Miss A Grove
1934	J M Elliffe	H Morpeth	Mrs N E Burton	Miss A Grove
1935	J M Elliffe	H Morpeth	Mrs N E Burton	Miss A Grove
1936	J M Elliffe	H Morpeth	Mrs N E Burton	Miss A Grove
1937	H Morpeth	L B Schnauer	Miss M W Haslett	Miss E Schnauer
1938	H Morpeth	L B Schnauer	Miss M W Haslett	Miss R Mahon
1939	H Morpeth	L B Schnauer	Mrs C E Grevatt	Miss R Mahon
1940	H Morpeth	D G McFarlane	Mrs C E Grevatt	Mrs V Kerr
1941	J S Milne	D G McFarlane/A Belcher	Miss A Grove	Mrs V Kerr
1942	J S Milne/J Jerrat	A Hay/R W Verry	Miss A Grove	Mrs A C Steele
1943	J Jerrat	R T Postles	Miss R Mahon	Mrs A C Steele
1944	J Jerrat	R T Postles	Miss R Mahon	Miss A Grove
1945	J Jerrat	R T Postles	Mrs J Jerrat	Miss A Grove
1946	J Jerrat	J M Elliffe	Mrs J Jerrat	Mrs A D Murray
1947	J Jerrat	J M Elliffe	Mrs J M Elliffe	Mrs A D Murray
1948	D L McKay	J M Elliffe	Mrs J M Elliffe	Mrs W K Michael
1949	D L McKay	J M Elliffe	Miss R Mahon	Mrs W K Michael
1950	D L McKay	A H S Lamb	Miss R Mahon	Miss E Schnauer
1951	D R Garrard	A H S Lamb	Mrs L S Dawson	Miss A Grove
1952	D R Garrard	T J Kirkup	Mrs A J Ferguson	Miss A Grove
1953	D A Schnauer	T J Kirkup	Miss A Grove	Mrs A E Turton
1954	D A Schnauer	T J Kirkup	Miss A Grove	Mrs A E Turton
1955	T J Kirkup	M B Blakey	Mrs W K Michael	Mrs C M Rattray
1956	T J Kirkup	M B Blakey	Mrs W K Michael	Mrs C M Rattray
1957	M B Blakey	E A Robb	Mrs C M Rattray	Miss M L Crawford
1958	M B Blakey	E A Robb	Mrs C M Rattray	Miss M L Crawford
1959	F H Ferris	L J Holzer	Mrs A E Turton	Mrs A K Berghan
1960	F H Ferris	L J Holzer	Mrs A E Turton	Mrs A K Berghan
1961	E A Robb	F L Hendrey	Mrs A K Berghan	Miss M Parkinson

**Club Executive****Ladies Executive**

<b>Year</b>	<b>President</b>	<b>Captain</b>	<b>President</b>	<b>Captain</b>
1962	L J Holzer	L J Goad	Mrs A K Berghan	Miss M Parkinson
1963	L J Holzer	L J Goad	Miss M Parkinson	Mrs G Hayman
1964	F L Hendrey	W N Smythe	Miss M Parkinson	Mrs R Hay
1965	L J Goad	G J Rich	Mrs R Hay	Mrs L Davies
1966	D H Thurston	H D Craig	Mrs R Hay	Mrs L Davies
1967	D H Thurston	A M King	Mrs L Davies	Mrs McCammick
1968	H D Craig	A M King	Mrs L Davies	Mrs McCammick
1969	F L Hendrey	A J Lang	Mrs F L Hendrey	Mrs G C Park
1970	F L Hendrey	A J Lang	Mrs F L Hendrey	Mrs G C Park
1971	R G Wilson	T G Barnes	Mrs G C Park	Mrs A S Don
1972	R Scott	H W Ash	Mrs G C Park	Mrs A S Don
1973	R Scott	H W Ash	Mrs A S Don	Mrs A E Turner
1974	P E Reeves	F D Lipscombe	Mrs A S Don	Mrs A E Turner
1975	P E Reeves	F D Lipscombe	Mrs A E Turner	Miss E Schnauer
1976	H W Ash	A R McMurtrie	Mrs A E Turner	Miss E Schnauer
1977	H W Ash	G A Lane	Miss E Schnauer	Mrs E H Boyd
1978	K F McKenzie	J M Lovelock	Miss E Schnauer	Mrs E H Boyd
1979	F D Lipscombe	J M Lovelock	Mrs E H Boyd	Mrs H D Craig
1980	F D Lipscombe	R J Hay	Mrs E H Boyd	Mrs H D Craig
1981	K F McKenzie	R J Hay	Mrs H D Craig	Mrs J C Connell
1982	R J Hay	W J Hall	Mrs H D Craig	Mrs J C Connell
1983	R J Hay	W J Hall	Mrs J C Connell	Mrs J Martin
1984	J H C Bowles	W Kemp	Mrs J C Connell	Mrs J Martin
1985	J H C Bowles	W Kemp	Mrs J Martin	Mrs B M Dawson
1986	W J Hall	B S Henneker	Mrs J Martin	Mrs B M Dawson
1987	W J Hall	B S Henneker	Mrs B M Dawson	Mrs C A Cambie
1988	B S Henneker	D G Crisp	Mrs B M Dawson	Mrs C A Cambie
1989	B S Henneker	D G Crisp	Mrs C A Cambie	Mrs G M Clark
1990	D G Crisp	R A Whetton	Mrs C A Cambie	Mrs G M Clark
1991	D G Crisp	R A Whetton	Mrs Y O Kemp	Mrs G M McLennan
1992	W N Coughlan	J Christian	Mrs Y O Kemp	Mrs G M McLennan
1993	W N Coughlan	J Christian	Mrs G M McLennan	Mrs I Ward
1994	R A Whetton	J Christian	Mrs G M McLennan	Mrs I Ward
1995	R A Whetton	J Christian	Mrs I Ward	Mrs M McGill
1996	I R Ward	J Christian	Mrs I Ward	Mrs M McGill
1997	I R Ward	W I Liddy	Mrs M McGill	Mrs T Mullins
1998	I R Ward	W I Liddy	Mrs M McGill	Mrs T Mullins
1999	K Savory	A T McKendry	Mrs T Mullins	Mrs E S Murphy
2000	K Savory	W McKenna	Mrs T Mullins	Mrs E S Murphy
2001	J Christian	W McKenna	Mrs E S Murphy	Mrs E Tomkins
2002	N S Chandler	I Kempthorne	Mrs E S Murphy	Mrs E Tomkins
2003	D Dunningham	P Gonthier	Mrs E Tomkins	Mrs G Percy
2004	D Dunningham	P Gonthier	Mrs E Tomkins	Mrs G Percy
2005	Mrs E Tomkins	C Winstanley	Mrs G Percy	Mrs S Harris
2006	Mrs E Tomkins	C Winstanley	Mrs G Percy-McLaughlin	Mrs S Harris
2007	W T Lindsay	C Winstanley	Mrs G Percy-McLaughlin	Mrs S Harris
2008	W T Lindsay	C Winstanley	Mrs S Harris	Mrs L Ripley
2009	W T Lindsay	C Winstanley	Mrs S Harris	Mrs L Ripley



## The Meaning of **MAUNGAKIEKIE**

With Maunga meaning a mountain or hill and Kiekie being a vine, Maungakiekie can be translated as meaning “the hill of a kiekie vine.”



Kiekie vines are shown above. The vine is a climbing species and has an aerial root system which secures it to tree trunks as it spirals its way to almost any height. Its fruit is similar in size and shape to a sweet corn cob with fleshy succulent seeds in a rather bony casing .



*Many thanks to the late Jack Lang for his research on this subject.*

*G***ently saunter over grassy glades**

***Feel the turf beneath the feet,***

***Smell the bursting buds of life,***

***Hark to nature's joyous cries,***

***Look around with quiet delight and  
muse,***

***All is well, I am content,***

**The Fairway is Mine...**

**Anon.**