WANNEROO GOLF CLUB Inc.

Wanneroo Fore

Issue 179
July 2011

Wanneroo Golf Club Inc.
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Your MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE for 2010 :

President:
Robert Holl
Vice President:
Alan Kennedy
Treasurer:
Steve Allars
Captain:
Derrick Ball
Vice Captain:
Peter Ballarine
IP President:
Duncan Ridley

Committee:

Ron Newell
Gary Robins
Greg Lynch
Ian Devenish
Dave Hicks

Ladies President
Jan Bowdler

Ladies Vice-President
Gail Pennington

Ladies Captain
Margaret Isaac

Vets Captain
Peter Flemming

Committee Comments

Membership Category Changes

Thank you to all those members that took the time to respond to the recent discussion paper/ proposal on changes to membership categories. Some 200 members responded to the questionnaire. The membership categories sub-committee is now working through the various responses, comments and suggestions received.

As per our commitment in the discussion paper, we will be holding an information session where you will get a further chance to ask questions or clarify issues. It is envisaged that this will be held on **Monday 22 August 7pm @ WGC** - this will be confirmed on the clubs website prior to this date.

From the many responses & questions received, it was obvious that a number of items required clarification. Below are answers to some "frequently asked questions" – we hope this will answer some of the questions received.

What are the full costs of membership including insurance, affiliation fees, bar levy etc?
Only the base subscription component of the fees was included, as these are still "indicative fees" until confirmed and recommended to a general meeting of members. Many of the fees such as insurance, asset replacement levy, locker fees etc. do not vary by membership category and/or do not relate to playing rights. When the fees are to be approved by members all this information will be included.

Does the 5 day Sun category include Wed AM?
Yes, the 5 Day SUN category does include Wed AM playing rights.

Can the 6 day rights be clarified?
These rights are;
6 DAY Weekend: includes; Mon, Tues, Wed AM, Thurs, Fri, Sat & SUN.
6 Day Wed: Includes Mon, Tues, Wed AM & PM, Thurs, Fri & Sun.

What are the competitions that relate to the membership categories proposal?
As part of the work done to support the proposal, a revised competitions proposal has been prepared. However, this needs to be reviewed by the Match Committee and approved by the Management Committee before being made available. This information will be published as soon as possible.

Can Ladies play Wed AM?
As stated above, the competitions are yet to be confirmed, but ladies rights to play on Wed AM will certainly be considered.

How will any discount be calculated?
If you are eligible for the 10% discount (20 years continuous service & 65 years of age), it will be a 10% discount to the "subscription component" of your fees. The discount will not apply to fees such as affiliation fees, insurance, locker fees, etc.

Why no FIFO (Fly-in Fly-out) membership?
A membership category for FIFO workers has been established as a "limited access membership" and is currently available for members to join. (Details are in the by-laws on the website) It is not envisaged that we will make changes to this as part of this proposal or incorporate it in our constitution. You must meet certain terms and conditions to be eligible. Interested members should contact the office.

We trust that this additional information is helpful. We will keep members informed and endeavour to answer further questions at the information session planned for **August 22.**

Again, thanks to all those who responded.

President's Ponderings

Dear Members

Well, it's the middle of winter again and the course is holding up well, even after all the rain we've had, so our Greens staff must be commended.

Our Pennants teams are all performing well; Div 2 have won 4 and lost only 1 so they are definite contenders for the finals. Divs 4, 6, 7, 8 & 9 are also doing well so we're expecting to have some teams in the finals.....good luck to all of you, I know you'll all do the club proud.

I recently had the pleasure of playing with the Captain of the Singapore Island Country Club. After the game we had a discussion about the cost of playing golf. As members of a private golf club, many think we have it tough but WA must have some of the cheapest membership in the world even though we may not think so. At SICC it costs $230,000 to join. Membership is transferable and can be sold but the club takes 15%. The course is 81 holes, there are 19800 members of which 7500 are full members; this equates to about 1666 full members to every 18 holes. Each member pays $2160 per year, plus competition fees. The club has 200 carts which also generate a substantial income. I suspect that one of their main problems is how to spend all that money they must have sitting in the bank. Oh to have such a problem!

Our Junior program is continuing to go very well under the guidance of John Walker (and Jan Plaisted who runs the Junior Clinic) which is great to see, after all, they are the members & committees of the future! I recently read in a magazine that Junior Golf is so successful in France that they are actively creating 6 & 9 hole courses, just for juniors. It's both rewarding and exciting to see the game being played and embraced by youngsters and that associations and governments are willing to invest in facilities to promote junior development.

Thank you John & Jan for your commitment to our juniors.

On Saturday 16 July we hosted the Klaus Fast Trophy. Klaus, who did not play in the event, came to the club to present the trophy. When Captain Derrick Ball handed Klaus the name of the winner, Klaus asked if he was reading the name right. When told that he was indeed reading it right he stated that he was sure that when the name of the winner was announced it would be greeted with a standing ovation.

He was right, when Phil Taylor approached the podium to accept his trophy the clubhouse stood to applaud and salute one of life's true Gentlemen. Phil's acceptance speech was both articulate & humorous, he had us in stitches. He was delighted to have won the competition and at the age of 86 he reckons he still has another 15 years or so in which to get his swing right. Well done Phil, and we sincerely hope we will have the pleasure of your company here at Wanneroo for many more years to come.

The ladies have donated $2000 towards the purchase of the Computer Manager Software which is required before we install Auto Score; a very generous gesture, thank you to all the ladies.

The Ladies' GWA State Amateur Championships took place at our club, mid July and I believe it was a great success. Wanneroo was well represented 10 players in the event. Lorraine Metcalfe (mid amateur division) made it through to the final which is being played as I write so Good Luck to Lorraine. Congratulations to the other 9 ladies who made it into the Championships, we're very proud to have such high calibre players within our membership.

Our club continues to move in the right direction, our finances are on track, we have attracted a number of new members and our course is in great shape. Congratulations & well done to committees and staff – you are all doing a great job.

To all our new members welcome and to our existing loyal members, keep hitting 'em straight.

Robert Holl

Jesus & Moses playing golf

Jesus and Moses are playing golf. On the 5th hole, a shot over water to an island green, Moses hits his 6-iron and it lands perfectly on the green. Jesus takes out his 7-iron and begins tee-ing it up.
Moses says: "The 7 isn't enough club. It'll go in the water"
Jesus replies: "If Tiger Woods can do it, I can do it."
He swings the 7-iron and sure enough, straight in the drink. He tees up a second ball and grabs his 7-iron again. Again Moses reminds him of his previous attempt and Jesus says, "If Tiger Woods can do it, I can do it." "PLOP" in the water, it goes again. He continues this until he has hit all his golf balls into the water. At this point, he begins walking out on the water looking down to locate his lost golf balls.
The foursome behind them approaches the tee, spots Jesus out on the lake and says to Moses, "Hey, who does that guy think he is, Jesus Christ?"

Moses replies, "No, Tiger Woods."

Ladies News

CONGRATULATIONS!

Winning WGC Ladies Metropolitan Div 2 Team:

L-R Back: Barbara Morrell, Gail Pennington, Loraine Metcalfe, Terri Davies, Glenys Ferguson, Lorraine Smith, Jan Plaisted, Helen Pullinger

Front: Trish Fryer – Team Captain

(Team member Heather Darley absent from photo)

Well, they did it! Back to back wins for our Metropolitan Div 2 team. A mighty achievement and a first back-to-back win for the WGC Ladies. It is also the first time in our history that 2 Ladies' Teams have won in the same year. A huge thank you from the players of all teams to the caddies who gave up their time to support them throughout the season. We couldn't have done it without you, caddies! A most enjoyable pennant dinner was held at the club on July 4th. It was a very merry time when amusing and poignant stories about pennant game exploits and experiences were related.

The ladies senior pennant team is now firing up for their season beginning in August. Good luck to you all.

After our Open Day in 2010, the Ladies used some of the funds raised to sponsor an Assistance Dog who was born in October. We named him Flynn and last month Mike & Leslie Burridge of the Australian (formerly WA) Assistance Dogs organisation, along with Flynn & his puppy trainer/raiser, came to visit during one of our Thursday presentations. It was good to meet Flynn and we shall follow his progress with interest.

The Members' ART SHOWCASE EXHIBITION is looming. Whether you are displaying your art work or not, you are cordially invited to come along to the OPENING of the exhibition on FRIDAY 19th AUGUST from 6pm onwards to enjoy the art & to participate in the wine, cheese & olive tasting. The caterers will also be opening the kitchen for the evening for those who wish to stay to eat on the night (To help the caterers, please let us know if you are intending to stay).

The exhibition will also be open for viewing on Saturday & Sunday afternoon 2.30- 4pm, when refreshments will be available.

We are really looking forward to this event and hope to see many of you there.

Jan Bowdler
Ladies President

Greens gossip

All signs are very promising for a wetter winter than last year with good falls already received this year. To mid July we have received 355mm of rain compared to last year having 313.5mm to the end of July.

The difference being, this year the rainfall seems a little more consistent than last. July last year was our wettest month having only 125mm and having well below average rainfall for the remaining 5 months of the year.

Hopefully with some higher rainfall months to come, we can have good rainfall as this will dictate to degree our water management practices over the summer period.

Our focus has been on some tree maintenance issues over the past couple of months. The natural loss of numerous trees due to the poor rainfall last year has meant many dead trees have required removal. We have replaced some of these with mature specimens that should survive next summer well. We have also established a tree seedling nursery where we will develop trees to a maturity level that they can be planted out on the course and we can be relatively confident they will survive.

Some members may have noticed improvement in various bunkers in recent months.

Continued over page....

Greens gossip cont.

We have a re-filling and levelling programme with some bunkers receiving very large quantities of sand to improve them for play.

At this time we have completed approximately half of the bunkers on the course and shall continue to work through the list. Hopefully, this will resolve some issues with our bunkers.

On occasions we hear comments from areas of the membership suggesting that work that is being undertaken on the course is poorly timed and interferes with competition play. May I reassure everyone every effort is made to limit this impost but on occasions the work just has to be completed to achieve the goals we are aiming for. Ground staff start their day very early to avoid this disruption as best as possible.

On a final note, please take care when moving around the course not to drive or step on the irrigation valve box lids. These can be damaged or may be weak and if stepped on may cause injury. If you do notice a damaged or unsafe lid during your game, please notify the administration or approach my staff and let them know so we can have it replaced.

Best of luck for the months ahead and lets hope the rain keeps coming, preferably in the night hours for everyone.

Jon Carter
Course Superintendent.

Ron Newell
Chairman of Greens.

Golf Course Nomenclature

Thank you for the supportive comments and suggestions and thank you to the 38 members who made submissions.

Given that we had already made a decision that no ones name should be included in the naming of the holes; the fourth will now be changed to the second choice name of 'Rosehill'.

Nothing to do with roses of course, but a reminder that the early games played by Wanneroo Members were played at the Rosehill Country Club Course.

An example of why this type of naming is important relates to a query why the 17th is to be called the 'goal posts'. Many 'older' members will remember the area on the right hand side with small trees right on the edge, driver length.

Often the comment would be made based on the ball going through the goals or posts. The Greens Committee have been asked to look at reinstating a couple of small trees as the originals were unfortunately removed.

The Vets have decided to place a small chamfered lime stone block with a brass plate on top to celebrate their 'walk'.

Perhaps the ladies could liaise with the vets to do the same for their pathways?

More developments to come!

A. Kennedy

Chairperson

Special Events.

Alan Kennedy
Chairman Special Events

Thank you to our very enterprising Ladies who have donated $2000 to enable our Club to purchase the computer module called Competition Manager, from Mi Club.

This module is the precursor to being able to introduce Auto scorer.

Thank you once again to Lionel Rose for his second contribution towards the Pathways on our Course

Sponsors Corner

This month we would like to acknowledge and thank Alan Hill and ADH Golf vehicles, an ongoing long term supporter of our Club.

The Fosters Group, a supplier who supports the Club by way of rebates and the provision of free product from time to time for various Club events.

SITA Environmental a new corporate sponsor of our Club.

A.D.H.
GOLF & UTILITY VEHICLES
ALAN HILL—0409 108 168

SITA Environmental Solutions

FOSTER'S GROUP

Here are a couple of photos of Geoff and Maureen Venables taken during their trip to Bali – The trip they won as a result of winning our last Gala Day .

LOOKS LIKE THEY HAD AN EXCELLENT TIME!

CARE OF OUR COURSE

Most, if not all playing members, will acknowledge and appreciate the condition of our golf course, and even though we have had some very wet days, the course has held up well.

What is disappointing is the number of divots and pug marks that have been either left unattended or have been poorly repaired. A classic "downer" that rightly infuriates fellow golfers is when your ball stops in a divot that hasn't had the sides knocked in and been covered with a light layer of sand, but instead, disappears below ground level or perches on a pile of sand that has overfilled the divot hole. Bunkers too, are often raked in a very ordinary fashion, eg one handed efforts which really don't leave the surface in a state that makes it reasonable for the next player who happens to land in that area.

Many of you may have noticed that the correct way to fix these, has been on display on the monitors in the clubhouse. In addition, our website has a specific section on "Course Care". While you may think you are a full bottle on divots, pug marks and bunker repair, take a few minutes to refresh your memories and do the right thing by others as well as helping to keep our course in pristine condition.
This section of the website also details the requirements with the use of electric carts and those who use them are also encouraged to read the information provided.
When we have heavy rain and the course is soaked, it is vital that carts follow the rules of use; especially adherence to the blue lines around the greens.

Bunkers

Always enter and exit the bunker at the lowest point. Before leaving a bunker, the player should carefully fill up and smooth over all holes and footprints made by that player or others. They should then leave the rake in the bunker facing in the same direction as the fairway runs. Push sand away from you as you exit the bunker.

If required rake other affected areas or remove debris.

Do not pile sand at the edge of the bunker. Push back excess sand.

Always leave the rake in the bunker facing in the direction that the fairway runs with the handle end resting on the edge of the turf .

Repairing Divots and Ball-Marks

Through the green, a player should knock in with an iron, the edges of any divot mark made by them and lightly fill with sand.

Remove any loose turf from the affected area.

Knock in all sides of the edge of the divot

Pour a small amount of sand over the Divot

Using your club or shoe level out the sand

Ball Marks

The player should ensure that any damage to the putting green made by the ball or by the player is carefully repaired. Unrepaired ball marks take over 4 weeks to disappear, poorly repaired marks up to 15 days to regrow whilst properly repaired ball marks disappear in about 24 hours.

Always start at the back of the mark and push forward with the repairer.

Use repairer around all sides and slowly ease turf toward the centre of the mark. Do not lift the soil upwards.

Lightly tap down with putter.

Dear Members
We have now come to the end of the Pennant season and all teams did our Club proud.
With the last game played Sunday 23rd, all except two teams could have made the finals.
Our division two side led by John Walker had four wins out of six, but lost on a count back to make the finals.
Division six and eight easily made the finals.

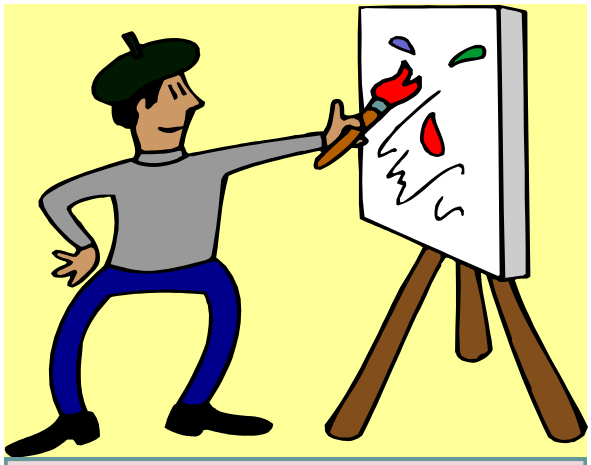
The next major golfing event on our calendar will be the **Club Championships.**
Our championships will commence on **Saturday 8th October**.
Rounds two and three will be held on **Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th of October**
The final round will be held on **Saturday 22nd** with our presentations and dinner also on the night of 22nd October.

The forms for this event will be available shortly; ordinary Members, only, will be able to register prior to 15th September. Subsequent to 15th entries will be open to all categories (* playing fee required).
All entries will close on 22nd September and no late entries will be accepted.

Keep a look out for the entry forms, which also include the dinner attendance form.
Seats will be limited to 140 people and it will be first to pay, first to get a seat policy.

We are looking forward to a great Championship and a great presentations night, so don't be late submitting your form!!

Derrick Ball
Captain



Members Art Showcase and Exhibition

Members and friends are cordially invited to
The Wanneroo Golf Club's Members Art Showcase and Exhibition

When: Opening night Friday August 19th
Time: 6.30PM

Come and view paintings by our Members and enjoy some wine, cheese and olive tastings.

The Clubhouse will also be open to Members and guests on Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st 2.30 and 4.30pm - Afternoon tea is available

- Some art will be for sale
- It is also intended that paintings of our course will be produced into a 2012 calendar and then sold as a fundraising project by our ladies in 2012.

For those that may choose to stay for dinner, meals will be available to Members and their friends (please advise office of your numbers)

Did you know?

1] Which of the following are loose impediments?

i. The starter, loose soil on the fairway, fellow competitor
ii. A wooden bench, piece of coal, paper cup
iii. An opponent's towel, rake, golf balls that are out of play
iv. Gravel stones, leaves, banana peel

2] A player walks on the line of his putt. When is there no penalty?

i. If he does so accidentally
ii. If the line is not improved
iii. If he does so accidentally and the line is not improved

3] Which is correct regarding a ball that may be interfering with or assisting another player's play?

i. A player may have any other ball lifted if he considers it might interfere with his play even if his ball is in motion
ii. A player may lift his ball if he considers it might interfere with the play of the other player
iii. A player may lift his ball if he considers it might assist the play of the other player

4] A player's ball comes to rest in a tree where it is visible but cannot be recovered or played. What is the ruling?

i. If ne can identify his ball, it may be deemed unplayable
ii. If he cannot recover the ball, it is lost even if it is identified
iii. If he cannot identify the ball, it must be declared lost or unplayable

5] In a single match A, by mistake plays B's ball from a greenside bunker onto the putting green. The error is then discovered. What is the ruling?

i. A loses the hole
ii. The hole is halved, because B should have known A was playing his (B's) ball and stopped him
iii. A incurs no penalty and B must play his ball as it lies on the putting green
iv. A incurs no penalty and B must replace his ball in the bunker

Answers on next page of publication .....

Vets feedback

Remember those stinking summer days; 42C and all that? The last few weeks have had us looking back, not in anger, but in the rosy glow of nostalgia. So many of our competitions have been abandoned, postponed or lost at sea recently that those summer days now seem like a form of golfing Nirvana.

The Frank Jones Memorial Trophy, sadly, had to be postponed, but will be played soon and Captain Peter will send out the notification by email. If anyone is not getting Captain Pete's emails (no, we are not going to say "lucky you") please notify Cheryl at the office and it will be fixed -- as Tommy Cooper would have said -- just like that.

Those of you who have friends, get them up to the club on August 25. That is our Invitation Day for the Colin Abbot trophy. Because Colin is such a fine and decent fellow, the competition is Stableford. And while they are enjoying the course, remember to point out the Vets Walk sign at the 14th; many an agonised back lies in those pavers.

Christmas (and those hot days) approaches and that means the Vets' Christmas function. See the notice board in the locker room for details of how many games you have played and how many you need to get a ticket (or two) at the lowest rate.

Often here, we point out the senior moments of the senior members of WGC. These are usually funny, but this one is tragic. It concerns a very decent fellow and a rotten piece of luck. You might know him:

He is the one who, around April each year announces: "Well, I'm off to Thailand again."

"Invited by the Tourism Authority of Thailand," he says.

"Playing six fabulous courses," he says.

"All laid on, everything free, except the caddie tips, even the food and drink," he says.

"It will be fabulous," he says, "All I have to do is write a couple of pieces for The West Australian.

"I expect you lot are jealous."

He went – and has not been seen since.

Turns out he was on Day Five of the trip (and playing well) when he decided to go for a swim in the pool. Top Step. Slippery. Feet up in air. Side comes down on side of pool. Lots and lots of body weight behind it.

After a week of agony back home he had x-rays which showed one broken rib and lots of bruising and fluid inside. Turns out that even his ample padding wasn't equal to the downforce created by his unheavenly body's descent. Six weeks away from golf he has been told.

Of course, his identity is a secret, after all, someone might tell the author of the Vets' pieces in Fore!

A Sponsor opportunity exists for a construction on the lake next to the 15th.
Plans and specifications available from Jon Carter, Greens Superintendent.

(thanks to John Foley for the photo)

MEMBERSHIP

It is great to be able to report that our new membership opportunity with the reduced nomination fee of $100 has seen our numbers increase to a healthier position than we have had for several months. Although, we have retained this discount at this point, it may well change beyond the end of July.

Current members are therefore encouraged to speak to friends, neighbours, acquaintances, business colleagues and others in the local community, to consider joining as members. Don't forget we also have a "Pathways to Golf" program at Wanneroo. While the uptake in this program has not been huge, it is still an option that people may want to consider.

Further details are available by contacting the office on 9405 3677.

Answers to golf questions .....

1] correct answer is gravel pebbles, leaves, banana peel
— refer to definition of 'loose impediments'

2] Correct answer is if he does so accidentally and the line is not improved
—decision 16-1a/12

3] Correct answer is a player may lift his ball if he considers it might assist the play of any other player
—rule 22-1

4] Correct answer is that if he can identify his ball, it may be deemed unplayable
—decision 27/14

5] Correct answer is A loses the hole
—rule 15-3a

Some photos of the Ladies GWA State Amateur Championships held at Wanneroo **in July …..**

Minjee Lee—Champion

Grace Lennan—Runner –up

Events Calendar

August	11th	Ladies Championship Dinner
August	19th	Wine / Art exhibition
October	22nd	Men's Championship Dinner
November	18th	Ladies Dinner
December	2nd	Vet's Xmas Dinner

** To be advised - Gala Day

Some Golf Truisms …

Everyone picks up the tab when they're playing alone

Everyone rakes the bunker after a beautiful out

If you can't outrun a golf club, don't give advice

No one has a coughing fit as you walk off the tee

No one blows his nose at the end of your follow-through

No golfer ever played too fast No group ever played too quietly No golfer ever dressed too plainly

If you ever par the first three holes, you'll have a twenty-minute wait on the next tee

Never take lessons from your father Never teach golf to your wife Never play your son for money

Everyone replaces the divot after a great shot

Emails

Hi to all Committee and members, Enjoyed reading the fore though for the last couple of weeks I've had double vision(Isolated partial 6th nerve palsy !!) Must be getting old....NO... I won't have that.... Look forward to the proposed changes to categories - all golf clubs (except maybe Karrinyup, though I guess they lose members each year also) feel the effects of competition. I had a Queenslander in my cab who told me SEVERAL gold coast clubs including my favourite, Robina Woods, have gone into RECEIVERSHIP !!! The lads who used to go there may already know this but it is sad news indeed. All the best,

Thanks for your email

Hi, I read the fore magazine, and was particularly interested in the falling membership/ lack of new members. I would like to just have my little pennies worth and to give you some info. Two friends of mine were interested in joining a club, so I tried to get them to join Wanneroo gc, as I explained the club the best way I could they were very interested, until I mentioned the house credit included as an extra in the fees. That put them off, (and to be honest I personally cannot blame them, for reasons I will explain)…they could not see why a house credit, which is basically an additional fee, should have to be paid, they like myself and my partner just wanted to have a game of golf and then go home or off to work whatever, their feelings were that they did not want to have to feel duty bound to spend a lot of their free time in the clubhouse. They have in fact joined another golf club. So, two new members lost.

I pay the credit as a member, but the truth is I do not like it either. In 1998 I had serious brain surgery, subsequently I was advised to refrain from alcohol. Being just like most other people I enjoyed a beer or two, but felt my life was more important. My partner decided to quit alcohol as well, just to help me, we both tend to stay away from places were alcohol is served, so to us the $240 extra is a waste of money. Yes we order wines and beers at Christmas and give them away, but we still have to pick them up and deliver them, and to be honest in this financial climate the $480 dollars could be well spent on bills and such.

Now I do understand the idea of house club credits, but it really does not take into account people such as ourselves, or people wishing to join a golf club who may be on a tight budget. Could this credit not be voluntary???...or even be able to spend it in the Pro shop???...I would quite happily spend it in the pro shop myself…..

Regards…..

Thanks for your email and your point of view. The house credit is always a contentious point when the Management Committee formulates their budgets for the following year.
We don't believe there is an easy answer and have no doubt that it will continue to be an issue for some Members and not a problem for others.
We will discuss the Pro-shop option at our next committee meeting.

Please send your points of view to :

wgclubadmin@iinet.net.au or give Cheryl a call in the office 9405 3677