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Plants & Cuttings

Would any green-fingered members with excess plants or cuttings please contact Carole Butland – she is coordinating the garden improvement volunteers.

Fairway Markers

Following removal of 137m green pipe markers we are awaiting the arrival of new pop up fairway markers to replace the existing flat painted ones. You'll find a Blue marker now at 180 m from the middle of the green, on each Par 5 hole. Unfortunately we have experienced delays with printing the Brendan Foot sponsored scorecards – these will arrive shortly and feature the new fairway marker distances.

Flag Sponsorship

Whiting Financial Services have agreed to ongoing sponsorship of Shandon. New top quality wind hardy flags are on order, and should survive the local breezes better than our previous ones.

Tee Markers Arriving Soon

After losing so many of the round ball-shaped tee markers we made our own 'beautiful' wooden versions for a few months, but have now settled on a new top quality 'flat saucer' style that sits low to the ground, and hopefully is less tempting to the halfwits who must throw our markers, flags and rakes in the river!!!

Upstairs Toilet Makeover

New décor, fittings and flooring will make the upstairs loo's very smart. Thanks to the Midweek Women who donated \$1000 toward this from their recipe book project, and to all members who bought a membership raffle ticket last year. Steve Weir is coordinating this project with assistance from Brian Hill, Wayne Coleman and Phil Aickin – thanks very much everyone.

Trees - What to do?

Most members have an opinion on the number, type and location of the four hundred plus trees at Shandon. Given the aging pine stock and the danger they present, the board is working with well known horticulturist Richard Nansen, toward a programme of tree removal and replacement. This would obviously be a long term strategy, with the first work hopefully starting over summer later this year.





Hole in Less Than Two!

Gordon Jones aced the 18th hole just as he did twenty something years ago – with the same 4 wood club!

Tom Caithness Lounge

Following repair and repainting of the wooden frames new curtains and blinds are being installed. New heaters thanks to the Weekend Women's 'Night at the Rugby' fundraiser are up and running. Next project is to replace the carpet, and powdercoat the chairs in a fresh new colour.



Grant Smith Memorial - Anzac Day



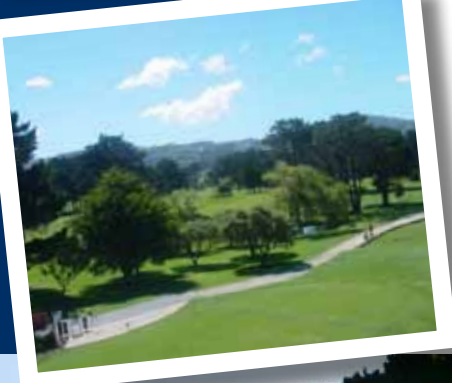
(Left to right) Presentation of the Grant Smith Memorial - John Neill, co winner, Sandra O'Meara (Grant's sister), Bruce Smith, Vice Captain, Elaine Neill co winner, John Lambert, Club Captain.



Thursday Club 'Shower King' Tournament



(Left to right) Steve Carson of Shower King, who sponsored this years Ducks Unlimited tournament, with the winner Hira Govind, and Thursday Club President Bruce Young.



Fine Signs Win Award for Shandon Tee Signs



Phil Swain and his team at Fine Signs – corner of Jackson and Cuba Sts Petone – received a Gold Medal at the New Zealand Sign Display Awards, for our recently installed tee signage.



Shandon Women's Open

Played in challenging windy conditions, only six of the ninety strong field withdrew prior to tee off, on Sunday 17th May. The Shandon Weekend Women set very high standards for any of their tournaments, and all participants agreed this was another excellent day.



The winners pictured from left to right are; Miriama Taniwha, Best Gross Bronze, Club Captain Elaine Neill, and Marilyn Pierson overall winner, Best Gross.

Bulk Retrieval of Golf Balls

Three members have been approved to retrieve balls lost in hazards and in gardens throughout the course, outside their normal golfing activity. Good balls will be sold to our Pro Shop for resale at a reasonable price, and not so good will be donated to the Junior Academy. Non members are not permitted to be on the course proper just to retrieve balls.



Logo

Any further introduction of the Heron Logo has been halted temporarily while discussions continue between the interested parties.



Reciprocal Clubs

Our list of 'sister' clubs where you can play for free is featured on the club website at www.shandongolf.co.nz. We are continually looking for new opportunities and are currently writing to several New Zealand clubs who may be keen to swap reciprocal rights with Shandon. If you have any ideas or contacts at appropriate clubs please contact Travis Gawler, Shandon GM on travis@golf.co.nz.

Watt Cup Division 1

The Hawkins Shandon Watt Cup team travelled to Featherston for what was essentially a semi final match against Featherston. Needing a 6 all draw to progress to the final, they came up one short, losing 5-7. Our boys had a good year with two very big wins – including a 12-0 win over Royal Wellington, last years champions.

Coring

Testing by the Sports Turf Institute has shown a gradual increase in the thatch content of our putting greens. Thatch build up can result in unhealthy greens – we have all seen the recent onset of Anthracnose and its devastating effect. The Board has agreed to address this issue by reintroducing two corings per year from 2010 – these will be in Feb/Mar, and October. Apart from the three day closure, during which time we will have playing rights at another club, there is an obvious increase in expense. Each coring in total costs around \$10,000, and takes away the ability to sell corporate days during four good weather weeks – but two corings will ensure our greens are presented in the best possible standard in future.

Nonies Nook

Nonie Whittle was a member between 1981 and 1989. Her 'Nonies Nook' has grown into a beautiful backdrop for the 12th green. Her extended family recently unveiled a new plaque to celebrate Nonies time at Shandon.

