November 2026 Newsletter



Serpentine & Districts Golf Club

Brenton Harnett after his superb 66 nett and Annette Chandler after her even more impressive 64. Dot Thomson was runner up with a pretty swish 70. Incredible golf.





Monthly Mugs

President's Post

November 2026

October became one of the busiest months of the year around the club.

The new clubhouse building has started to take shape with the concrete slab being poured, the structural steel framing being erected and the steel wall framing being fitted along with plumbing works taking place.

Club championship rounds for both the men and women were completed. Congratulations to all the trophy winners and thankyou to all the players who participated.

The management committee arranged a trial of an autonomous (robotic) fairway mower which was conducted over a 3-week period, mowing fairways 1, 8 and 9 for 3 days of each week. The data gathered from this trial will be invaluable when the committee discusses the concept and decides on a path forward. Thanks must go to the team from NuTurf who very generously provided the machine free of charge.

The grounds crew as always do a fantastic job and the undertaking of a soil analysis on the fairways resulted in recommendations as to what is needed to be added to the soil to improve our turf quality. The guys then procured, at a very reasonable cost, the required elements and set about spreading it on all the fairways. The NuTurf team where quite surprised when I shared the photo of their mower with them. No harm done, after a quick wash the mower was ready for service.

November of course is our AGM with all committee positions declared vacant. I would like to encourage anyone who thinks they have something to offer the club to raise their hand and nominate for a position

Special Note

The current committee are very appreciative of the power of work the current ground staff undertake. We also recognise that the individuals concerned are aging and their capacity to do the work required to maintain our most precious asset, the course, is diminishing. We recognise there needs to be an injection of "new blood" into the team to keep our course in great condition. I would like to encourage anyone who has some time available to assist in their endeavours to contact the team. I am sure you will be warmly greeted and assigned tasks to undertake when your time is available. Although Wednesday seems to be the main working day it does not mean that it is the only day. There is a string of tasks that could be undertaken on any day of the week by individuals if so desired.



Mens Captain's Corner

October saw strong fields with the championships having an average of 44 players, 51 players competed over the 3 weeks with 36 playing all three weeks.

Chris Gray won the Club Championship coming from behind in the final round. Chris shot a course record 68 to win by one shot from Vic Kemp.

The B grade championship was decided in a sudden death play off between Brenton Hartnett and Phil Jones. . Phil got into trouble of the tee box and his next shot was up against a tree, mean while Brenton kept to the fairway. Phil conceded after he was unable to get onto the green with his fourth shot.

C Grade was won by Theo van Raven from Gary Fosternally.

There was some good news for Phil Jones on the day as he picked up the Nett trophy.

Ladies Captain's Corner

In October the Ladies Championships were held, this being a bit later in the season than usual. I think this worked well as we enjoyed great weather and 18 Ladies were in the competition. Most of our newest members played and these ladies had some great scores over the three weeks. Congratulations and much thanks to Amy Rowett for coordinating another three weeks of coaching with Nigel Durkin on Saturday mornings. From what I have seen and heard these have been enjoyed by all.

<u>2026 Ladies Championship Results</u>

Ladies Club Champion: Judy Borgward. Runner up Ladies Champion: Marg Richings.

Ladies nett Champion: Felicity Smith. Ladies Runner up nett Champion: Lyn Erickson

Ladies B Grade Champion (Gross): Lorraine Bailey

We look forward to presenting these awards at the Presentation Lunch on 8/11/2026

This year's Final Monthly Mug was held on 27/11 and was won by Lorraine Bailey with a 70nett.

There are only 3 fixtures in November on a Tuesday left before summer golf starts on 25th of November.

Rule of the Month

Penalty area stakes are normally classified as movable obstructions under Rule 15.2a of the Rules of Golf, meaning players can easily pull them out of the way before making a stroke.

However, a club committee can designate penalty area stakes as immovable obstructions through a Local Rule. This is what we have done at Serpentine, our stakes have been made immovable.

What Happens When Stakes Are Immovable?

• If your ball is inside the penalty area: You cannot remove the stake. If the stake interferes with your stance, lie, or swing, you receive no free relief. You must either play the ball as it lies or take a 1-stroke penalty relief option (such as lateral or back-on-the-line relief). Moving an immovable stake incurs the general penalty (2 strokes in stroke play or loss of hole in match play).

• If your ball is outside the penalty area: If an immovable penalty area stake sits outside the penalty area and physically interferes with your stance or swing, you are entitled to free relief under Rule 16.1a (nearest point of complete relief plus one club-length)

Tricia and Kaye after their 3 in 1 Partner Day, Bev and Marg after 1st round of the Ladies Champs, Lorraine, Felicity and Bev after 2nd round, and Lyn after the 3rd round. And had to include Chris after his sensational Course Record of 68 on October 18th which nailed him the Men's Championship.











Serpentine & Districts Golf Club
Clubhouse Upgrade Project
Progress Report October 2026

• Main Construction Works

Work Completed This Month

- All structural steel columns and roof beams are fixed in place.
- All steel wall frames erected and fixed in place and tied to the structural steel and concrete floor slabs.
- All steel-framed roof trusses were erected and fixed in place.
- External plumbing services installed, including soil pipework connecting all fixtures to the effluent disposal system. The grease trap for the kitchen was installed and connected.
- Orders placed for the roof sheeting, insulated roof panels, external wall claddings, eaves gutters, downpipes and all fittings.







Works in Progress

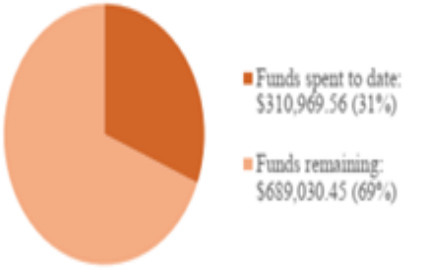
- Plumbing services
- Fabrication of door and window frames.
- Quotes for ceilings and wall linings.

Works Planned for November

- Fixing of window and door frames.
- Fixing of insulated roof panels and roof sheeting.
- Fixing of external wall claddings.

• Project Funding & Expenditure

FINANCIAL STATUS	Including GST
Club Funding	$220,000
Shire Funding	$360,000
Corporate Funding	$98,000
CSRFF Funding	$280,000
Work in kind	$42,000
Total allotted funds	$1,000,000
Funds spent to date	$310,970
Funds remaining	$689,030



• Project Program

Project Component	Start Date	Completion Date
Confirm Project Funding		Complete
Building Permit		Complete
Site Services		Complete
Demolition	Feb 2026	Complete
Construction Stage 1 – Up to Lock-up	April 2026	Feb 2027
Construction Stage 2 – Fit-out	Dec 2026	Aug 2027
Commissioning	Aug 2027	Dec 2027

Around the Grounds

We have had some constructive action on the course over the last couple of weeks.

The remote mower that was doing a 2 week demo did a very impressive job, the fairways it cut did a far better job than our mowers. Two more demos to go so will be interesting how they compare.

A load of sand has been delivered to spread where necessary but more importantly also a load of gypsum/lime which soil testing proved we really needed. Kyle de Lacy volunteered the use of his tractor, super spreader & his time to spread the gypsum/lime over most of the course.

It was a team effort with me loading the spreader & Wardy following up with the mat to break up the lumps. Big thanks to Kyle & Wardy for helping to get the job done. The super spreader did a great job & is also capable of spreading sand, mulch, fowl manure & our other fertilizer. It would save money & using a shovel if we were to have our own.

Brett organized for a rabbit shooter to come in for a night & a large number of rabbits will no longer be digging up the fairways.

Colin Ashby

From the Archives



Our Ladies 1984

Featured Hole

No. 4: Par 3. Men 137m Index 16

Ladies 117m Index 18

Intriguing par 3.

Not the easiest green to hold. OOB on the left and plenty of trees to navigate on left and right.

Straight forward for the girls.

Your Committee

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