



VOLUNTEER'S REPORT

Monday 14th November 2016

Volunteers :- Peter Legge, Bob Gray, Brian Thorn, Stephen Humphreys, Bob Preston, Ken Bellman, Pete Tanner and Phil Bevington.

Apologies:- Dave Butler, Byron Myer, Ian Goodall, Jan Domanski, Gordy Bray, Phil Cleaton, David Kidd, Leigh Grice and James Joshua.

Achievements:

Spraying:

Nil – way too windy- which is becoming a theme for 2016, don't you think?.

Soiling:

Nil

Mulching:

We have managed to completely clear the remaining mulch stockpile adjacent to the green-keeping sheds. To the best of my knowledge, there is about one or two bucket loads (with GUR stake) left near the track on RHS of the 8th fairway - tucked in amongst the stockpile of sticks and branches that we have progressively accumulated.

The team completed the 3 gardens at the 12th tee along with sugar cane mulch to promote our new plants that seem to be adapting well.

Bob Gray chimed in with 'watering duties'. Bob is a retired academic of some years and reasonably new to the team. As such, VCO thought it appropriate to give Bob a quick rundown on the best way to distribute the water without the need to refill our containers, the nearest tap being some distance away. I just said "count to **7** when you do each plant and you should be right".

He got halfway!!!

I am searching for an easy explanation and some come to mind.

As it happens, I am currently reading Adam Spencer's (of The Back Page fame) 'Big Book of Numbers'. Adam explains that **7** is famous for **Blanche's Dissection** which refers to the simplest dissection of a square into rectangles that all have the same area but are of different sizes. There are 7 rectangles in Blanche's Dissection – the square is 210 units on each side – so its area is $210 \times 210 = 44,100$ sq units. This means that each rectangle has an area of $44,100$ divided by $7 = 6300$ sq units each.

I'm pretty sure Bob will be right now!

And he has just put his hand up to water the plants this Friday and the following Monday in my absence.

But there may be a small spanner in the (water) works - there is only **3 gardens!!!**

Back to the mulching (yes, I hear you) – team also finished a couple of small gardens on the RHS of the 9th, fairly thick in some spots so it would be advisable to hit left for a few weeks.

A quick thank you to **Brian Thorn** for taking over the FE Loader duties in Dave Butlers' absence. It was no mean feat getting to the bottom of the stockpile.

Hedging:

Bob Preston and **Ken Bellman** took on hedging duties and armed with a brand new motorised hedger, courtesy of **Shane Herring** who was not there on Monday but had everything ready to go. Many thanks Shane.

Before they started, **Stephen Humphreys** told me to make sure Bob had ear plugs.

Not sure why he didn't mention Ken?

They trimmed all the fox-tail grasses from the 1st to the 4th and then on to the 17th.

A fantastic job.

Ken mentioned that Bob should take most of the credit, as Bob did all the hedging. I was momentarily thinking that this was just capital of Ken to pass all the credit on. At that very point, Ken quickly added: *'well, I did do all the tidying up'* after Bob!!

Stick Run:

With such a large amount of fox-tail cuttings and with the wind about, **Ken Bellman**, **Pete Tanner** and **Brian Thorn** decided to take the tractor-trailer back out after morning tea and went right through to about 4pm. Managing to collect numerous loads of fox-tail, branches and sticks.

Great effort - but Ken was loath to take all the credit!

Vac Blowing and Sweeping:

Nil – way too windy.

Of Interest:

- **Peter Legge** for driving the tractor-trailer and in most cases dumping the mulch in the right spots! **Phil Bevington** said; "That's not fair – he did a great job." Phil is our union rep, so no further correspondence on this matter is required!
And to be fair - "Phil did a great job distributing the mulch as well."
- Mo and the catering team continue to provide a quality morning tea. Thank you.
- A special mention to **Eugene**, the Club's resident mechanic / engineer. I am not sure what specific accreditations Eugene has, but I will say from observation that he just presents the Club machinery in pristine order. A very valuable asset to Camden Golf Club.
- **Bob Gray**, who often (always) turns up to 'Vols' 'without notice', as they say in politics.

I have been sending Bob the usual SMS each fortnight to get the numbers for next vol day. Bob said he wasn't receiving them and checked the phone number I had, which was correct. He said send me an SMS now and I'll check it. Usual content was something in the order of "Vol Day 14/11. R U in?"

When he received it, he said "oh, is that from you. I thought it was some sordid message from a 'lady of the night', so I just deleted 'em!!!!!!

Thank goodness, we didn't need Blanche's Dissection to solve this one.

Volunteer's Trophy:-

"Studley Park – Order of the Shovel – Vos Estis Sal Terrae"

Clearly, **Bob Gray** is our man this week.

Next Vol Day: should be **28/11**.

Cheers,
Peter T. VCO, OOTS.



Bob Gray