

Volunteer's Report and '2016 Wrap'

Monday 12th December 2016



Volunteers :- Peter Legge, Phil Cleaton, Jan Domanski, Dave Butler, Stephen Humphreys, Byron Myer, Bob Gray, Ken Bellman, Pete Tanner, Phil Bevington and James Joshua.

Apologies:- Brian Thorn, Bob Preston, Ian Goodall, Gordy Bray, David Kidd, Leigh Grice.

A great turn-out for our last vol day of 2016.

Isn't it marvellous what the promise of 'chrissy pudding' can do.

ACHIEVEMENTS:

Spraying:

A sample of 63k voters has recently ranked the best duos of all time. The top 5 in reverse order are: 5: Milk & Cookies. 4: Bert & Ernie. 3: Han Solo & Chewbacca. 2: Tom & Jerry and at #1: Batman & Robin.

It would appear that our # 1 spray team, **Stephen Humphreys** and **Phil Cleaton** were not included in the survey. Had they been, one would expect them to be ranked well ahead of Bert & Ernie!!

On that note, they pretty much covered the whole course proper and reported that all was in very good shape*.

*However, both Stephen and Phil did ask that I include a **note to all golfers using carts:** evidence of cart tyre tracks across several gardens was noted and we do request that carts be kept away from gardens at all times.

Many thanks for your indulgence on this issue.

Soiling:

With the tractor still in dry dock (Eugene reports that the machine is fixable and although reaching vintage years, is still a 'solid old girl' (with apologies to our lady golfers – for some reason, certain machines do seem to adopt a gender bias)), the team had to use the limited capacity of the Toro Workman ably driven, in all directions, by **Ken Bellman**.

A rut running across the 1st and many bare patches on the same fairway, were covered by soil mix. Some badly needed forecast rain will definitely assist growth – and hopefully fill a few dry spots that we used to call dams!!

And a short but worthy note should go to **James Joshua**. James has not been in the best of health recently but did turn up and contributed with some driving and miscellaneous duties. Get well soon mate.

Mulching:

Our #1 mulch team comprising **Phil Bevington**, **Jan Domanski** and **Bob Gray** continued to mulch the quite extensive gardens running along the LHS of the 9th fairway / forest.

This team would clearly rank alongside Han Solo & Chewbacca, who if memory serves me correctly, were inter-stellar smugglers. Nonetheless, a highly ranked team!

Phil Bevington is often the source of memorable quotes and today's was worthy of note. When Phil arrived we had some tools loaded which included shovels. Phil said "what are shovels for?" Before we could respond with something dead-pan, he quickly added – "look, I know what shovels are for but what are we using them for today?" Saved - in the nick of time, Phil!!

Hedging:

Stephen had mentioned that some old tree shrubs in the small round-a-bout that the carts drive around at the 6th tee should be removed. **Dave Butler** made short work of them with the FE Loader and ably assisted by our aforementioned mulch team.

Whilst there, **Peter Legge** and **Jan Domanski** noted that a fence chain in the same area was broken and would you believe, sighted strong evidence of carts being driven from the LHS of the 5th green through the fence gap to the 6th.

They duly repaired the damage – just another 'on the run task' competed by the Vols.

Vac Blowing and Sweeping:

Nil.

General Gardening:

Phil Bevington, Bob Gray, Jan Domanski and **Pete Tanner** raked and weeded the garden behind the 5th tee. A pretty decent and highly visible area along Camden Valley Way and due for some TLC.

Stick Run:

Byron Myer and **Ken Bellman** made full use of the Toro and cleared sticks etc along the wire fence at LHS of the 5th and collected the raked debris from the 5th tee garden.

Byron mentioned that 'Ken really can pack a load'. Regular readers will know that past photographic evidence has confirmed Ken's exceptional loading skills!

Of Interest:

- **Dave Butler** who turned up extra early to water "Luke's Log and Garden" – well, you know what I mean!
- A special morning tea including Xmas pudding and cream was presented by **Sue Walsh** and **Sue Jenkin**, complete with Santa Hats. Would have made a great photo but they gracefully (and quickly) declined the photo op!! Many thanks ladies, including the kitchen team, for your assistance in 2016.
- This is our last report for 2016 and **Stephen Humphreys, on behalf of the Board, Owen Madden on behalf of the Club & Members and Shane Herring on behalf of the Greenkeeping team**, have asked me to pass on their Thanks to the Volunteers' for their contribution to the well being of Camden Golf Club during 2016.
- Likewise, the Vols' pass on their thanks to all above for their support, plus a quick but special thank you to **Mandy Jack** who has looked after editing and processing of our reports.

Volunteer's Trophy:-

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

Many to choose from but to 'shore up' the future of our operations and with a 'new photo' to boot, a wise and popular choice must go to the Club's numero uno: **Stephen Humphreys.**

Thank You Stephen for your support and personal input to the team throughout 2016.



Photo: Stephen Humphreys

Next Vol Day: 2017 – date tba.

Merry Xmas & Happy New Year

Peter T. VCO, OOTS.