

## Winter 2018 Report

Despite a very wet, especially late winter, with over 300mm rain in August, the course stood up well. Although several new springs appeared in the front of No 6 green (The Donga). Temporary GUR areas needed to avoid lost, suckered balls until new drainage can be undertaken. The practice green being in use for a few weeks in August with Donga closed. Greens renovations were undertaken in early September this year, immediately after Club Champs qualifying, with solid tine vertidrainage instead of the usual full coring. Good recovery.

The inaugural Codlin Electrical open competition was held in early July. A great turn out contested for a good prize table sponsored by Eric Codlin and his team. Something a little different to help attract entrants, with the big prize, a heat pump including installation being drawn by ballot with the winner required to be at the prize giving. See July results page for winners. Also successful was the Tim Hickey Memorial (early August), held this year in conjunction with the Waikohu club visit, competing for the Horse Shoe Trophy.

Club qualifying got underway in mid-August, with some surprise results. Two to mention; veteran Charlie Hayes knocking out the Clubs top golfer, Micky Huriwaka, and going on to meet Paul (Skip) Brown in the final, a repeat of two years ago. And young Jock Butler, not yet 15, meeting Ross White in the Intermediate men's final, losing on the 36<sup>th</sup> hole! Congratulations to Paul as he is the first one in recent history to win both the Senior Mens Matchplay and Stroke play in the same year. The wet start to finals day didn't dampen the enthusiasm of those contesting the club championship finals, nor the good turnout of club members and family.

In preparation for the Clubs centenary minor works were completed on the course, tidying up various areas, and finishing the concreting of paths down from the No 6 tee into the Donga, and down to the men's No 14 tee, and on to the fairway. These were sponsored by Sothern Trust. Cleaning up large trees continues with lots of good material for firewood sales. Again, the Club thanks Len Zeier for the huge amount of wood splitting for firewood, our main fundraising.

Planning for celebrating our Centenary event on the weekend of November 3<sup>rd</sup> has taken up lots of time, and arrangements are now well all in place. Registrations have been slow but a field of 120 on the Saturday is expected, and the evening dinner likely to be fully booked out. Late registrations are still open. See the Centenary page on this website for information and regular updates. A pre-registration form is available on both this site and on the Clubs Facebook site (Facebook.com@opotikigolf).

To our sponsors a big thank you, as always. The club appreciates your support both in prizes, funds, materials, time, and loan of equipment. Especially to our major sponsors: Waiotahi Contractors, New World, Opotiki Drainlayers, Hickey Sports, Ocean Seafoods and Harcourts, and several new ones now on board. To the Lion Foundation and Southern Trust, for enabling the purchase of vital course equipment and materials. This support is crucial for the club's survival.