

## **Information for Members and Guests 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

Our heartfelt sympathy and thoughts go out to members and friends who have lost their homes and lifelong belongings, and those people that have been impacted in some way, due to the recent bush fire that hit Mallacoota and district communities on 31st December 2019. Homes, property and infrastructure were lost and, whilst power has just been restored to the central business district, others in the community are still without power.

Fortunately, the Club House incurred no damage and is operational. The kitchen is operating and serving meals, and the Bar is open. However, the golf course has suffered significant damage to fairways, greens, equipment and watering system.

### ***Risk Assessment***

A Risk Assessment has been undertaken of the course and surrounds, and a decision has been made to close the Golf Course until further notice. The Australian Army personnel have taken over using the first fairway to land aircraft, in order to service the town generators. These aircraft create a powerful amount of down draft, spraying stones, dust and rubble. As a result, vehicles, boats and caravans parked on the 7th fairway may be at risk of damage.

People who have vehicles, boats and caravans parked on the 7<sup>th</sup> fairway, are strongly advised to move them to the old soccer oval at the Golf Club, to avoid any damage. Alternatively, if more convenient, people may relocate their vehicles to the corner of Bastion Point Road and Genoa Road.

The committee anticipates that the front nine holes may be playable in the near future. However, the back nine holes are considered unsafe, due to many large trees which have fallen, and other trees severely damaged.

### ***Golf Club Insurance***

Malcolm Hills from Ausbrokers Countrywide Insurance has been very supportive and proactive in getting the Club up and running. Assessors will be attending MGCC to undertake an impact assessment of damages to course and surrounds in the next few weeks. More information will be provided to members in due course.

### ***Wildlife***

There have been many injured animals, and a veterinary crew have been actively removing and /or tending to them.

### ***Hervey Bay Golf Club***

Our friends at Hervey Bay Golf Club contacted the committee and will be running a fund raiser for Mallacoota Golf Club on Australia Day. We are extremely grateful for their support (see attached flyer). Further, Harvey Bay and MGCC have entered into a reciprocal rights agreement.

### ***Membership***

As you would be aware, the Golf Club relies heavily on memberships, green fees and trade to function. Though Membership Fees are due this month, the Committee would like to invite any member who is experiencing hardship due to loss, please contact committee member Celia Wallace on 0438 580 633 to discuss alternative arrangements. Take Care everyone.

Bruce Gaudion  
President (on Behalf of the Committee of Management)