



GOLF SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

PATRON: MRS ANNE COURT

Historians Forum at Portsea Golf Club 20th October 2019

In keeping with the Society's ideals of holding forums in regional areas, the final forum for the year was held at Portsea Golf Club on the Mornington Peninsula. A pleasing number attended, with good support from the Portsea members. Life members Syd Thomson and Pauline Powell were programs the speakers. These much-loved club stalwarts have both made an enormous contribution to the club and served in many capacities.

Syd and Pauline are two of the three authors of *Within a Bull's Roar* a book celebrating the first 75 years of the Portsea Golf Club 1926-2000.

Syd and Pauline gave very interesting presentations and insight into the clubs early and what was seemed at times precarious beginnings.

Their talks were complimented with a slide presentation showing the early 9-hole layout and the subsequent added holes. Syd produced photos of the significant visionary pioneers and the many skilled men that shaped the course steering the club towards an 18-hole layout in the 1960s.

Familiar names such as Arthur W Relph, Scottish professional Jock Young, AO Barrett, Alex Russell, Jack Relph, Sloan Morpeth, Reg Jupp and Jack Howard were just some of the many that Syd referred to.

Pauline spoke of the impressive contribution Portsea's women made to the clubs' early years, they were a very active, hardworking, generous and capable group and remain so today.

Pauline contributed some wonderful photos of members competing successfully in many Pennant teams, at district events, as well as club competitions.

On display were many original documents, items such as the early correspondence, proposals and plans, gorgeous little hole layout sketches and founding member lists. Following the forum, a light lunch was served, and the group had a chance to look through this wonderful display.

Several society members played golf afterwards, some for the first time and all thoroughly enjoyed the course

On a personal note as a member of Portsea it was quite special to have the Society visit and showcase to the attendees the wonderful views the new clubhouse now gives

To learn more about Portsea Golf Club, I recommend read *Within a Bull's Roar*.

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