



# Coringa News



1<sup>st</sup> September 2022

Kia Ora

## SATURDAY'S MATCH

Welcome to Spring!

This Saturday's golf includes

- Saturday begins the Men's Club Championship Programme which continues until Finals day on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October. The handicaps for the different grades are listed below.
- The "Match of the Day": A Stroke round off the Black, Blue or or White tees for for men and the Yellow tees for women.
- The Shootout.

## Last Week's Raffle Winners

Gus Eathorne; Paul Hansen; Garry Puddy; Murray Angus; David Harvey; Mel Newburn.

The programme until the end of October 2022 is:

|                  |    |     |   |
|------------------|----|-----|---|
| <b>September</b> | 3  | Sat | Stroke – <b>FIRST QUALFYING ROUND CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS</b><br>Black / Blue / White tees<br>Match of the Day – Stroke off 3 tees<br>Shootout |
|                  | 4  | Sun | Round Four of Blank Cup Competition at Templeton v. Avondale  |
|                  | 6  | Tue | Ladies: Val Sutherland  |
|                  | 7  | Wed | <b>Lone Star Group WATERING TOURNAMENT</b><br>– Stableford – White Tees.<br>10.30 am start; (\$15 entry fee.)                             |
|                  | 8  | Thu | Ladies: Stableford Trophy<br>Men: Stableford - White tees.  |
|                  | 10 | Sat | Stroke – <b>SECOND QUALFYING ROUND CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS</b><br>Black / Blue / White tees<br>Match of the Day – Stroke off 3 tees            |

|                |    |     |   |
|----------------|----|-----|---|
|                |    |     | Shootout  |
|                | 11 | Sun | Round Five of Blank Cup Competition at Coringa v. Harewood  |
|                | 13 | Tue | Ladies: Best Nett   |
|                | 14 | Wed | Templeton Wednesday Tournament  |
|                | 15 | Thu | Ladies: L G U<br>Men: Par - Yellow tees.  |
|                | 17 | Sat | Stroke – <b>FIRST MATCH PLAY ROUND CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS</b><br>Black / Blue / White tees<br>Match of the Day – Irish Stableford - White tees<br>Shootout [for non-championship players]   |
|                | 20 | Tue | Ladies: <b>Girls Day Out – Hororata Golf Course (see below)</b>   |
|                | 21 | Wed | WATERING TOURNAMENT – Stableford – White Tees<br>11 am start; \$10 entry fee.   |
|                | 22 | Thu | Ladies: Stableford<br>Men: Stableford - Yellow tees   |
|                | 24 | Sat | Stroke – <b>SECOND MATCH PLAY ROUND CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS</b><br>Black / Blue / White tees<br>Match of the Day – Stableford - Blue tees<br>Shootout [for non-championship players]   |
|                | 25 | Sun | Round Six & Seven of Blank Cup Competition at Russley v. Christchurch (am) & Pegasus (pm).  |
|                | 27 | Tue | Ladies: Stableford  |
|                | 28 | Wed | Ellesmere Wednesday Tournament  |
|                | 29 | Thu | Ladies: Nett – Throw out worst two holes.<br>Men: Irish Stableford - Yellow tees  |
| <b>October</b> | 1  | Sat | Stroke – <b>FINALS DAY</b> [36 / 18 holes for finalists – begin at 8:00am]<br>Nonparticipants - a shotgun start Match of the day<br>American Stableford – White tees; Drawn partners tee off at 9:30am – cards to be printed by 9:00am.<br>Shootout |
|                | 4  | Tue | Ladies<br><b>TWILIGHT</b> – Begins for 2022 – 2023 season.  |
|                | 5  | Wed | <b>Lone Star Group</b> WATERING TOURNAMENT<br>– Stableford – White Tees.<br>10.30 am start; (\$15 entry fee.)   |
|                | 6  | Thu | Ladies<br>Men: Stroke - Jerry Attick Trophy – Yellow tees.  |
|                | 8  | Sat | Stableford – Black / White tees<br>Shootout<br>[Reserve day for club championships]   |
|                | 9  | Sun | Round Eight & Nine of Blank Cup Competition at Avondale v. Hororata (am) & Templeton (pm).  |
|                | 11 | Tue | Ladies<br>Twilight  |
|                | 12 | Wed | Templeton Wednesday Tournament  |
|                | 13 | Thu | Ladies<br>Men: Stableford - White tees.   |
|                | 15 | Sat | 4BBB nett – Blue tees   |

|  |    |      |   |
|--|----|------|---|
|  |    |      | Shootout  |
|  | 18 | Tue  | Ladies<br>Twilight  |
|  | 19 | Wed  | WEDNESDAY TOURNAMENT – Stableford – Blue Tees<br>- 11 am start; \$10 entry fee. |
|  | 20 | Thu  | Ladies<br>Men: Par - Yellow tees  |
|  | 22 | Sat  | Stroke – Silver tees<br>Shootout  |
|  | 25 | Tue  | Ladies<br>Twilight  |
|  | 26 | Wed  | Ellesmere Watering Tournament   |
|  | 27 | Thur | Ladies<br>Men: Stableford - Yellow tees   |
|  | 29 | Sat  | Russian Roulette – Blue / Silver tees<br>Shootout                               |

## CORINGA CLUB CHAMPUIONSHIPS

The **Coringa Club Championships** will begin with the first qualifying round on the 3<sup>RD</sup> of September. The second is the following week 11<sup>th</sup> of September – the best ONE of the two to count for qualification and seeding purposes.

Eight in each of the six grades to qualify: ie three rounds of match play scheduled for the 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of September with the finals on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October. If any of the scheduled days are rained out the 8<sup>th</sup> of October is the reserve day.

Six grades: (Handicap index)

Senior 8.6 and below; Intermediate 8.7 to 14.3 Junior “A” 14.4 to 20.2; Junior “B” 20.3 and above; Masters (age 65+ and no handicap restriction) , and Women – handicap competition with no handicap restriction. Senior – Black tees; Intermediate & Junior “A” – Blue tees; Junior “B” & Masters – White tees; Women – Yellow tees

NB. All Masters results are decided on Handicap. (Handicaps current, ie. The handicap printed on your card on the day. The lowest handicapped player goes to zero and the other adjusted accordingly.)

If you are unable to play your match on the due date you may play any time before the date of the next due round. Please let Dave Harvey know if you need to do this.

Players in the championship match play rounds CANNOT go in the match of the day, or the shootout on that day.

A notice to trophy holders from last year – please return these to the pro shop asap and it would be appreciated if you could engrave them.

## CLUB NEWS

### New Members

We welcome the following five new members who have joined since the last newsletter

Matthew Kim      Yang Soo Kim      Ryan McCrystal      Edmond Zhang

Kun Zhang

Do not hesitate to ask from the pro shop or any of the members how the club functions and the different competitions we run throughout the week. Remember that you can book a tine on Dot golf and select who you would like to play with. If you have any issues with this ring Barry in the pro shop and he will find a time for you to play. Most importantly do enjoy your time at Coringa.

One message for our existing members – please make new members feel welcome, especially if you find yourself playing with someone new in the weekend. Lets make all new members feel part of the Club.

## **Café News**

The café will be opening regularly on Sundays from now on from 10:30am to 3:30-ish, depending on the demand.

For the month of September there will be a SPECIAL of:

Hoki fish Bites (eight), Chips, aioli, and tomato sauce. – for \$10.

## **Subscriptions and Membership**

Similar message to last week – everyone should have their sub invoices by now (any queries, email [office@coringagolfclub.co.nz](mailto:office@coringagolfclub.co.nz)).

People who want to pay by Direct Debit – PLEASE return completed forms to the ProShop (ideally by this weekend). We need to process the forms and send them to the banks before the first payments are due mid September, so please get these forms in ASAP.

In terms of membership numbers – we've processed roughly 55 resignation (a few due to ill health, a few moving to other clubs, but most simply due to people not playing enough to justify another years subscription). However overall membership numbers are still very healthy – roughly 475 playing members, and as you see above we are still adding new members most weeks.

We are really aiming for around 500 playing members – we think this works well financially for the Club while still giving members plenty of opportunity to get on the course.

## **Course news**

We've met with the wood chipper contractor – the course is drying out nicely with this warm weather and he is looking to start on site next Thursday (8<sup>th</sup>). It should take a week or two.

The areas they are working in will be roped off but please be careful of them when you're on the course.

The rough is starting to take off – the team will be busy mowing, but we all know it's a challenge keeping on top of this during Spring. Coring is still planned for mid-October once Club champs are completed.

## **RINGERS – 2022**

This week saw the Ringers participants have a choice to play off either the Blue or the Silver tees except for the two ladies in the field.

The thirteenth and final round of 2022 Winter Ringers competition was played again under cloudy cool conditions with hardly a breath of wind encountered during the round. It allowed the players to drive long on the fairways and to go pin-seeking with their approaches, the greens were as rolling as good as ever and it's a credit to our hardworking greenkeepers.

This week saw the Ringers participants have a choice to play off either the Blue or the Silver tees except for the two ladies in the field.

After Round 13, with the field having broken up into three separate groups with the lower handicapped group containing 9 players and the other 2 groups with 18 players each. Please note that these groups are dynamic, in that if your calculated weekly average handicap index for the competition is on the borderline of the designated group classification, this could mean that there

are possible switches in groups for those players. There was one interchange of players between Group A and B and it rewarded one of the players.

In Group A - Mal Ashton (10.7) held on to his lead with 54.350, ahead of Mel Newburn (5.7) who held onto second spot on 56.291 after not participating in the last round, with Isaac Preece (8.6) holding onto third on 56.400. Vance Hetaraka (11.2) was the benefactor of a change in Groups moving up from B with James Willetts dropping into Group B, he slotted into fourth on 56.808, with Paul Snape (11.1) dropping into fifth on 56.878.

In Group B - Alan Wicks (20.0) came home with a wet sail and fully inflated spinnaker and swept into the top position with a narrow winning margin of 0.304 on 49.650, from David Cross (17.0) who dropped a spot on 49.954, with Andrew Wight (19.3) improving two places to be in third place on 50.725. Phil Olsen (17.8) dropped two places to be in fourth position on 51.164 with Lex Halford (12.8) dropping two places to fifth position on 51.231.

In Group C - After weeks of seeing a number of lead changes in this Group, it was of no surprise that that we saw another after the final round. In the closest of finishes, it saw Jonathan Kemp (21.7) on 47.273 edge ahead of Alan Smith (31.7) by the miniscule margin of 0.009. Keith Yardley (25.1) dropped a spot to hold third on 47.942, with Peter Marsh (38.2) holding onto fourth on 48.800. Gordon McCoy (23.0) held onto fifth position on 49.000.

The hardest hole proved to be Hole # 15 with only two birdies, followed by Holes # 8 and # 13 with four birdies, followed closely behind by Holes # 2 and # 10, with five birdies recorded on each. The easiest birdie hole for the Ringers field was by far Hole # 12 with an eagle and 21 birdies, followed by Holes # 1 and # 14 with 15 birdies each.

In the end, 41 players who have managed to secure a better than net score of 60. There were an additional eagle and 9 birdies recorded by the Ringers field this week, taking the field tally to 162, Mel Newburn (5.7) now heads the birdies or better statistics with 11 birdies. Spencer Wicks (5.2) and John Gaw (6.8) has nine birdies each, with Isaac Preece ((8.6) on eight birdies. Mal Ashton (10.6) has an eagle and six birdies.

The final results to the Winter Ringers Competition are as follows:

|          |                |               |        |      |
|----------|----------------|---------------|--------|------|
| Group A: | Gross          | Mel Newburn   | 62     | \$40 |
| Net 1st  | Mal Ashton     |               | 54.350 | \$40 |
| Net 2nd  | Isaac Preece   |               | 56.400 | \$25 |
| Net 3rd  | Vance Hetaraka |               | 56.808 | \$20 |
| Net 4th  | Paul Snape     |               | 56.878 | \$20 |
| Group B: | Gross          | Lex Halford   | 64     | \$40 |
| Net 1st  | Alan Wicks     |               | 49.650 | \$40 |
| Net 2nd  | David Cross    |               | 49.954 | \$25 |
| Net 3rd  | Andrew Wight   |               | 50.725 | \$20 |
| Net 4th  | Phil Olsen     |               | 51.164 | \$20 |
| Group C: | Gross          | Jonathan Kemp | 69     | \$40 |
| Net 1st  | Alan Smith     |               | 47.273 | \$40 |
| Net 2nd  | Keith Yardley  |               | 47.942 | \$25 |
| Net 3rd  | Peter Marsh    |               | 48.800 | \$20 |
| Net 4th  | Gordon McCoy   |               | 49.000 | \$20 |

Congratulations to all the lucky winners, your prizemoney will be credited onto your club card for transacting by the weekend. A big thanks to all the participants that took part in the Competition to make it a roaring success. Hopefully we'll see the numbers participating increase especially from the number of new members in the club...the more the merrier and the bigger the payout. Apologies for not getting the weekly Ringers scoresheets updated in the Pro-Shop but that was

mainly due to family reasons but hopefully everyone still managed to see their progress on the Club's website or from the weekly Facebook postings uploaded by Gordon McCoy.

An announcement will be made shortly as to who will be crowned the inaugural winner of the "King of the Ringers" Trophy for the combined Summer and Winger Ringers Competition. The trophy is currently being assembled and will be engraved with the winner's name and will be presented possibly next week.

Kevin King  
Ringers Organiser

## **INTERCLUB**

### **Blank Cup Team Report**

The team had last weekend off and, and the next match (round 4), is at Templeton on the 4th of September against Avondale.

Scotty Calvert – Manager

### **President's**

The team struck a tough first up match playing Russley at Russley and lost 1½ to 6½ with Barry Stringer achieving the win and John Rowley the half. Most of the other games went well into the back nine with 2 players, Paul Snape and Steve Satherley taking their matches to the 18th.

Next match will be another challenge playing Harewood at Harewood on the 11th of September, before the first home match against Waimairi Beach on at the end of the month.

Convenor: David Cross

## **MEN'S REPORT**

Well, I'm back, and what a great break in Far North Queensland. Beautiful weather and too much food and alcohol, but those are the things we all enjoy! It's been great to get home and see the weather on the improve and the extending length of daylight!

This Saturday, the 3rd of September, is the first round of our annual Club Championship so a Stroke competition off all the tees Black (Senior), Blue (Intermediate and Junior A) and White (Junior B and Masters). Last year we introduced a Women's Division, and this will continue this year with match play on handicap (no handicap restrictions).

Any affiliated member of the club is able to play and full details are above, so I won't repeat the handicap divisions or tee block requirements again at this stage! If you wish to enter the Club Championship appropriate for your handicap, please put down your name and scores on the sheets provided in the pro shop. Remember, it's only the best eight scores who qualify but you have two chances to register your best score. Last year some members had issues with not playing in the first round and then there was bad weather for the second qualifying round and subsequently failed to register a qualifying score. So please be mindful we have a programme to stick to and coring coming up straight after the club champs. Good luck to those attempting to qualify!

There will be some members who do not wish to enter the Club Championships, so those members have the choice to play whatever tees they wish for two weeks! Again, if your handicap does not fit the grade you choose you cannot change your mind and hope to qualify!

There have been for a number of years two ongoing issues associated with the Club Championships. Firstly members put their names down wishing to qualify and then withdraw or wish to play the games at different times to the draw! This year there will be no movement and the match play must be played on the assigned dates which are;

1st Round (Quarter Finals)                      17th September.

2nd Round (Semi Finals)                         24th September.

3rd Round (Final 36 or 18 holes)             1st October.

This year I have also decided that if a qualifier withdraws from the first round, then, I will substitute a reserve (ie, the ninth or tenth qualifier) directly into the withdrawing persons position whether

they are first, or eighth qualifier and the rest of the draw will remain unaltered. Hopefully, this will avoid the first-round byes we have been having.

The second issue is pace of play and how long rounds are taking. I understand there have been some issues recently! I have asked John Brettell and our Board Chair Richard Kingsbury (who is having some tendon surgery) to come out over the next few weeks marshalling members pace of play on the course. As a match committee we suggest that members and visitors playing our course should be aiming at playing each nine holes in about two hours and the pace of play is set and maintained by the lowest handicapper within the four. It is that person's responsibility to not allow a gap to be created between four in front (and if does – close the gap up – play ready golf, move the tee as soon as you've putted out, don't all wait to work out what order you need to tee off in, fill out score cards after you've teed off etc etc.....)

Last Saturday, the 27th of August, was a Stroke competition off the Blue or Silver tees for men and the Yellow tees for women. 89 members played, and it is great that we are seeing these numbers on a regular basis, so we hope for very competitive fields in the Club Championships. It's great to see the Jackpot pool was finally starting to get a hit with Vance Heteraka and Allan McLelland picking it up \$100 each leaving the pool still at \$500. Jamie Howard picked up the Gross prize of \$17 with a score of 73 and the Birdie hole was #8, which was shared amongst a group of five.

The rounds of the day went to Kevin King in - Division Two (Blue) with a 70 from Daniel Bushby - Division One (Blue), Brian McOscar - Division Three (Silver) and Peter Bailey Division Four (Silver) all with 71's. Great scoring and its good to see Peter's golf on the improve!

The full results are available on the website.

I have heard that the final of the Urlwin Rose Bowl went down to the last hole with James Willetts and Kyle Charwood winning the last beating Kieran Foote and Tom Grimshaw. Great game guys, I understand, and I'm sorry I was not there to make the presentation. \$20 has been added to James' and Kyle's club cards and \$10 to Kieran and Tom's!



James and Kyle presented with the Urlwin Rose Bowl by Garry Puddy

### Raffles

I will be picking up the meat from New World Bishopdale this Saturday so please remember to purchase a ticket!

### Canterbury Metro A and B Sunday Competition

James Willetts and Jonathon Kemp have offered to manage both sides. Thanks very much guys! If there is anyone interested in playing for either of the teams please put your name and contact details on the sheet in the Pro-Shop and let James and Jon know of your interest.

### Upcoming events

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| 3rd and 10th September | Qualifying Club Championship                                    |
| 17th September         | Quarter Final round Club Championship.                          |
| 24th September         | Semi Final round Club Championship.                             |
| 1st October            | Finals (36 and 18 hole)   |
| 9.30 Drawn partner     | American Stableford Shotgun start for members who wish to play! |

**Closest to the Pin:**

Weekly

Hancock's Wine and Beer Merchants

**Membership Welfare**

If anyone knows of a member who has a health issue or need a bit of help please let me know!

**Comment**

Two weeks away and the course is looking and playing so well.

Get out there and enjoy!

David Harvey

Men's Captain

**LADIES REPORT****Tournaments**

If you are wanting to enter any of these, can you please do this yourself until further notice. Don't forget to give them your Index handicap and club #.

Pegasus Monday 5 September 2022` 9-Hole Affiliated members only, 9.00am registration for 9.30am start. Entry Fee \$20, payable on the day. Stableford competition with grades according to entries. Entries close Wednesday 31 August Draw on Canterbury Golf Website. - Friday 2nd September. Entries to be to be info@canterburygolf.co.nz

Greendale - Women and Men's 9-hole tournament: Monday 12th September. Morning tea 10 am tee off 10.30am. Entry fee \$20 entries to be sent to emgreen640@gmail.com

Waimakariri Monday 19th September 2022: Entry fee \$20, 9-Hole, mixed event. Individual Stableford .Morning Teas @ 10am Tee off @ 10.30am. entries to women@waimak.nz

Amberley Tuesday 26th September. Entry fee \$20. 9-Hole Stableford, Men and Women. 9-Hole members only. 9.15 Morning Tea, 10am Multi tee start. Entries to amberleygolf@gmail.com

Coringa 9-Hole Tournament. 17th October. Flyer up in the club rooms for those wanting to play

**Thursday**

Club Day. Another perfect day for golf and 6 players played for the McBirdie Trophy/Stableford. 1st was Myra Story and 2nd Janice Healey.

**Saturday**

What a great afternoon for golf. Saturday ladies enjoyed their time on the course, although scores didn't quite meet their expectations! So, no winners today.

A booking has been made for 12.42 for next Saturday

**Sunday**

Results: The ladies, played today in cloudy but pleasant conditions. Winner was Janet with 14 stableford points followed by Fay with 13 stableford points.

A booking has been made for 10.30am again for next Sunday.

**Tuesday**

Today we played Stablefords. Great to see the sun shining this morning for a lovely game of golf. Winners today were: 1st Joy McKelvey and 2nd was Myra Story



## General Notices

**Club Champs:** Please check for a Club Championship Notice on the Ladies 9-Hole Board  
The draw has been done so can you please check to see who you are playing and arrange a time to complete your games.

**Girls Day Out:** 20th September Hororata golf course. 18-hole ladies 9am start \$30. 9-hole members 10am start, \$20. Carts have been arranged. Lunch has also been arranged at Hororata Village bar and Café at 1.30pm.

Notice is up in the lady's locker room to put names down of those who are coming as we need to confirm numbers with Hororata 3 days before. It would be nice if we had a few more able to go.

**Coringa Tournament:** We are looking for raffle items. Please leave with one of the committee or in the lady's office downstairs.

**Ladies AGM 22nd Nov.** please put this in your diary.

Anne Morgan

## WEDNESDAY GOLF

'Lone Star and Joes Garage Group' Wednesday \$10 and \$15 Tournaments:

On Wednesday 31st August we had an additional \$10 'Lone Star and Joes Garage Group' tournament including meat prizes from 'New World Bishopdale' and closest to the pin prizes from 'Hancocks', where we had only 22 participants playing in lovely spring weather! There were some outstanding scoring with Lex Halford scoring 43 Stablefords in Division One and Peter Marsh 43 Stablefords from Alan Smith on 42 in Division Two. I was talking to Swampy's group and he had a big smile on his face as they told me he had written down four four-point stablefords in his first eight holes! I played with Alan and he played some great golf, with Richard and myself often complaining, as we were writing down three stablefords on his card too often! My golly that old McLeans Island Group are very competitive, but how do their handicaps not seem to change! Haha! Outstanding golf Swampy, Lex and Al!

As I was doing the results I saw Lex had two twos and he would have been disappointed we weren't playing on Saturday! Then saw Brian Docherty had a two on number 18! Yes number 18 a great bit of golf Brian! Unfortunately, Brian's and Terry's group had gone by the time I got into the clubrooms!

Lastly the Brown Family had another Wednesday win over Dutchy Rademakers and Kevin Walker. Saying that three of the four playing scored 34 stablefords! Some may wish to view the results and investigate further?

Division One [up to 16]

|     |                   |         |
|-----|-------------------|---------|
| 1st | Lex Halford       | 43      |
| 2nd | Brian Docherty    | 38      |
| 3rd | David Harvey      | 37      |
| 4th | Richard Kingsbury | 35      |
| 5th | Malcolm Wratt     | 34(C/B) |

Division Two [(16.1 and above)]

|     |                |    |
|-----|----------------|----|
| 1st | Peter Marsh    | 43 |
| 2nd | Alan Smith     | 42 |
| 3rd | Peter Bailey   | 39 |
| 4th | Bill Hallett   | 36 |
| 5th | Paul Carpinter | 33 |

On Wednesday 7th September we have our \$15 'Lone Star and Joe's Garage Group' tournament including the \$50 vouchers from 'The Lone Star and Joe's Garage Group', meat prizes from 'New World Bishopdale' and closest to the pin and random draw prizes from 'Hancock's'.

Thanks once again to our sponsors. David Harvey

## THURSDAY GOLF

It appears that Spring has finally arrived after one of the wettest winters for many years!

The first day of spring saw some great golf with all the prize winners scoring better than their handicap. With weather like this handicaps must fall!

The outstanding round of the day went to Hugh Little with a nett 65 (and the Jerry Attick Trophy for September), while Derrick Xu could only manage third with 71 'off the stick'!

Results:

|     |                |    |
|-----|----------------|----|
| 1st | Hugh Little    | 65 |
| 2nd | Greg Carr      | 67 |
| 3rd | Derrick Xu     | 70 |
| 4th | Paul Carpinter | 70 |
| 5th | Wing Gin       | 71 |
| 6th | Robert Pryce   | 72 |

There were two 2's today – Keith Yardley (#5), and Derrick Xu (#13) and the closest to the pin (#17) went to David Stead.

See you all next week in the spring sunshine for a stableford match off the White tees.



Hugh Little with the Jerry Attick Trophy

## **AND NOW**

### **Traditions**

The King wanted to go fishing so he asked the royal forecaster what the weather would be like.

The Palace Meteorologist assured him that there was no chance of Rain.

So the King and the Queen went Fishing.

On the way he met a Man with a Fishing Pole riding on a Donkey, and he asked the Man if the Fish were biting.

The Fisherman said, "Your Majesty, you should return to the Palace! In just a short time I expect a huge Rainstorm."

The King replied: "I hold the Palace Meteorologist in high regard. He is an educated and experienced professional. Besides, I pay him very high wages. He gave me a very different forecast. I trust him."

So the King continued on his way.

However, in a short time a torrential Rain fell from the Sky.

The King and Queen were totally soaked.

Furious, the King returned to the Palace and gave the order to fire the Meteorologist.

Then he summoned the Fisherman and offered him the prestigious position of Royal Forecaster.

The Fisherman said, "Your Majesty, I do not know anything about forecasting. I obtain my information from my Donkey. If I see my Donkey's Ears drooping, it means with certainty that it will Rain."

So the King hired the Donkey.

And so began the practice of hiring dumb asses to work in influential positions of Government.

The practice is unbroken to this day.

From time to time I receive comments that this newsletter does not 'get through'. If you know of anyone who is not receiving the Newsletter, please let me know and I can send one out.

If any of you have news that would be appropriate for this newsletter, please email it me at:

[jfbrettell@gmail.com](mailto:jfbrettell@gmail.com) , or call me on 021 073 9450.

John Brettell