

BURKE and WILLS Trophy

The tradition continues

27 April 2018 – Oatlands Golf Course – John Reid

Awarded for the most notable occurrence on the day

Having recently survived back surgery, JR 36 handicap scored 5 points, assisted by Bob McGregor 36 handicap contributing 4 points, adding a total 9 points to their team score on the back 9. Bob was no less 'handicapped' with his plastic eyes (2), and alloy hips and knees (2 of each). There is some doubt these handicaps will survive the spring scrutiny.

John managed a remarkable 5-pointer and two 4-pointers in his round.

26 Sept 2018 – Mona Vale Golf Course - Dave Lukin

Scored a "Hole-in-1" on the 10th - his tee shot struck the protective netting adjacent to the tee and holed out in a garbage bin. This was offset on the 16th where he holed a very fast downhill sliding 40' putt to record a birdie 2 for 5 stableford points!

27-Sept 2019 – Mona Vale Golf Course - Not Awarded

Sadly, the Burke & Wills Trophy was not awarded again, so we have missed another opportunity to chronicle our exploits – perhaps we are setting the bar too high? For future events remember any three putt from inside two meters, failure to escape a bunker, or transitioning three fairways whilst playing one hole are examples of exploits which deserve to be submitted to the judging panel after the event – if only for the entertainment of the membership. There will be no bias in judging – the winner will be the one who receives the loudest laughter from the gathered judges.

3 May 2021 – Oatlands Golf Course – Brian Halcrow

Brian Halcrow was a worthy recipient of the "Burke & Wills Award" – presented in recognition for his bravery in rescuing a poor lonely ball from the deep (and treacherous?) ravine beside the walkway to the 5th green – highly justified I'd say - golf balls do cost about \$3 at all good golfing stores!

23 Sept 2022 - Oatlands Golf Course – Warwick Webb

They say the best way to demonstrate mastery of the game is to play trick shots, and so Warwick Webb bounced the ball three times across the dam and hit a concrete pipe before landing in the short grass – a deserving winner of the Burke and Wills Trophy. This is not the first time Warwick has won the award, having previously won in December 1981. With achievements spanning 41 years, Warwick can now deservedly be referred to as “the evergreen Warwick Webb”



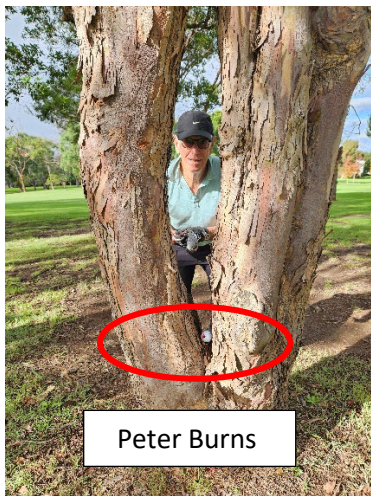
9 May 2023 - Oatlands Golf Course – Liz Lukin

I’m told that crows most often strike when a ball is left out in the open. Not afraid, Liz Lukin hit three consecutive shots straight up the middle on the 10th, and the crows obliged each time 🦅🦅🦅. Liz thus became a worthy recipient of the coveted Burke and Wills Trophy, and like all recipients will probably be eager to hand it over later in the year.

7 May 2024 – Oatlands Golf Course – Roger Scott

Roger joined the Alumni this week so he could play in the golf day. He was very impressive with his golf skills. On the par 3 ninth hole, he went within a whisker of a hole in one. Well done, Roger, the handicapper will be on a watch for him next time we play and the team he was playing with want him in their team again....

A worthwhile runner up for the Burke & Wills Trophy was Peter Burns, his ball got stuck in the vee of a trunk of a tree. It was very *"difficult"* to play that one.



20 September 2024 – Mona Vale Golf Course – Penny Griffith

– our regular golf days are about much more than high scores and great golfing, and Penny Griffith has been inducted into the Burke and Wills hall of fame. Penny, just days after recovering from Covid, arrived late thanks to Sydney traffic, and started off quite rushed before settling and going unbelievably close to an elusive Ace. As all golfers know, any delay is hard to pick up, and Pennys' group was quite rushed for the remainder of the round.



13 May 2025 – Oatlands Golf Course – Cathie Thompson

My strategic use of the conveniently located clubhouse window unfolded thus:

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> It was the 18th tee, a lovely little green surrounded by bunkers. My tee shot landed on the green but sadly rolled off and into a bunker behind it. Graeme Tuckerman managed to find the front right hand bunker and his wife Debbie landed in the left front bunker. All superb shots, mindlessly punished by an unforgiving course!

> Ray Thompson had hit the worst tee shot but as luck would have it, the golf gods smiled on him and his ball was just short of the aforementioned right hand bunker which I may add, was extremely long and troublesome.

> The collective wisdom of the group determined that Ray's ball position was the optimal one, given no pesky sand was involved. On reflection the shallow bunker behind the hole may have been the preferable option.

> As I contemplated how best to approach my next shot, Graeme hit his second shot back into the bunker from which he had only momentarily before, retrieved it. Darn, into the bunker for two instead of one.

> Wishing to avoid repeating his misfortune, I absolutely slammed my pitch with a little more velocity than perhaps was warranted. I watched aghast as my ball sailed high above the bunker and the green and the other bunker and the cart path and landed with much aplomb on the window of the clubhouse. Fortunately there were four members seated conveniently around the point of impact.

> They were delighted! Much merriment on their part, especially when the trajectory of the reflective bounce landed my ball back into the bunker from which it had been retrieved following my tee shot. Like Graeme, I was back where I started for two shots instead of one.

> A most enjoyable off piste excursion for all but my scorecard.

Cathie Thompson



12May 2026 – Oatlands Golf Course – Dave Lukin

As usual the Burke and Wills trophy was up for grabs. At least four previous “champions” gathered to defend their title, whilst the remaining 27 of us just hoped to avoid the unfortunate golfing moment which might gain us the coveted (not) prize. With a monster back foot lofted cover drive straight into Oatlands House from the very first ball from the first tee, Dave Lukin became a repeat winner! With all the finesse of a good rugby forward, he ventured into the nearby premises and recovered his ball. And so, the coveted trophy graces Daves’ home until our next game at Mona Vale.



Burke-and-Wills-Trophy-Winner!

