

## **John and Norma Hutchinson**

*20 years of dedication to the  
Rotary Golf Day*



## **Winners**

*Anne Marie Vella, Arnold Van Beda, Rod Peaty*



## **Best Ladies Team**

*Gwen Gretton, Lorraine Backman,  
Lorna Risol*



The 20th Gippsland Rotary Golf Classic, held on 16 March 2020, was memorable for so many reasons. As has been the case for several years, the Rotary Club of Moe's annual fundraiser within, and for, our local community, achieved all of its main objectives being 8 weeks of raffle sales, generous sponsorship from our business, retail and corporate community; widespread support from the golfing community and excellent participation at our loud auction. All of this, together with amazing autumn weather and a beautifully prepared course at Yallourn, a great outcome was all but guaranteed.

However, our good fortune would have been replaced by dismay if the event was held one week later, when the restrictive nature of the coronavirus would have necessitated a cancellation.

A small group of tireless Rotarians visited many of our local businesses ensuring that we sourced ample contributions for the evening's auction, and although the East Gippsland bushfires perhaps impacted on this important feature of our golf day, all 52 items were sold, raising \$3,800. As usual our thanks go to auctioneer Rob Sim and the Inner Wheel Club of Moe for their catering assistance.

In addition, the committee achieved its main objective of starting 6 players on each of the 18 holes for the midday shot gun start, 108 players in all. However, due to a couple of late scratchings, our field was reduced to 103. Pleasingly, one of our key sponsors (Harvey Norman) provided the winning team, while one of the Traralgon Central Rotary Club teams took out the Claude Staff trophy for best Rotary team. Another major contributor to the final total raised is from the golfers themselves. Of the 36 team entries, 21 of them were \$300 corporate sponsorships, which certainly helps our bottom line. It was very gratifying that we also received several other \$300 contributions from the non playing sector.

At the end of the evening's festivities, it was deemed appropriate to acknowledge the outstanding contribution made by John and Norma Hutchinson over the past 20 years. Their vision, dedication and networking have ensured that the Rotary Club of Moe has a viable event for years to come.

In closing, it should be mentioned that all Rotarians played important roles in the success of this event, with extra thanks to our Golf Committee Co-ordinator, Roger Taylor who worked tirelessly to oversee the entire event. The final figure to be distributed to local beneficiaries is approximately \$24,000, and this would not be achievable without the generosity of our major sponsors, Peter Kingsbury, Shen Guo and Michael Koch, representing Gippsland Dental Group, Betta Home Living and Yes Optus Mid Valley.

Heartfelt thanks is extended to all concerned.