

## VALE JACK CUTHBERTSON

Just four years after the re-forming of the Club in 1955, Jack was made a Life Member. What explained this remarkable achievement?

The Committee (including Jack) were very determined individuals but they were faced with an enormous task. The first nine holes were constructed on roughly cleared but undrained land within the Racecourse. While not quite a swamp, it was water logged and covered in ti-tree roots and crab holes. The second nine, which only existed in some people's imagination, was thick bush.

And yet in the space of eight years this was converted to a full 18 hole course with grass greens despite the Club verging on being broke. That it was able to do this was due to the sheer hard work put in by many and the contributions of Jack. His earth moving equipment was just about on permanent loan to the Club. Well, not really on loan – Jack kept forgetting to forward a bill apart from the occasional requests to cover fuel costs. His excuse was that the equipment would just have been lying idle or that the men needed to be trained and this was as good a way as any.

Of course he did this so that he could play the game but this was only a small part of it. It was more about putting back into the community and was typical of the way he saw things.

The Course today is vastly improved and changed from the early days but it still could be said in many ways that it is the Course that Jack built.

**Written by George Shand**