

Beveridge beauty

Thomson tees off at Melbourne's newest public course

by Rob Vanderzalm

AUSTRALIAN golfing legend Peter Thomson recently teed off on his newest golf course in the heart of outer Melbourne's latest residential development, Beveridge.

The Thompson-Ross Perrett-designed Mandalay course is located off the Hume Highway, north of Craigieburn.

Thomson said the layout had been designed as a key feature of the 2000-plus allotment community which will eventually be home to more than 6000 people.

With construction now underway on the front nine, the five-time British Open champion was inspecting the site and said works were continuing on schedule to ensure the timely delivery of golf to the new community as it establishes.

"While it's still early days, we aim to ensure the first nine (holes) at Mandalay

are delivered well in time for the first stage of buyers to enjoy as they move into their homes," Thomson told *Golfer Pacific*.

"The first two holes are already complete and will take some time to grow in as we continue works on the third and fourth holes with fairways, aprons and bunkers all under works."

Thomson has long been associated with creating cutting edge golf courses across Australia with partner Perrett, including the Sandhurst Club Champions' course, The National Golf Ocean course at Cape Schanck and Moonah Links in Rye.

He said residential developments such as Mandalay, that incorporate a Thompson-Perrett-designed course, are particularly well integrated with housing to ensure maximum views and course aspects while remaining protected for privacy.

"The course will cater for all a golfer's needs, and the clubhouse will provide

facilities for barbecues, club hire and private functions for residents, visitors, corporate entities and more."

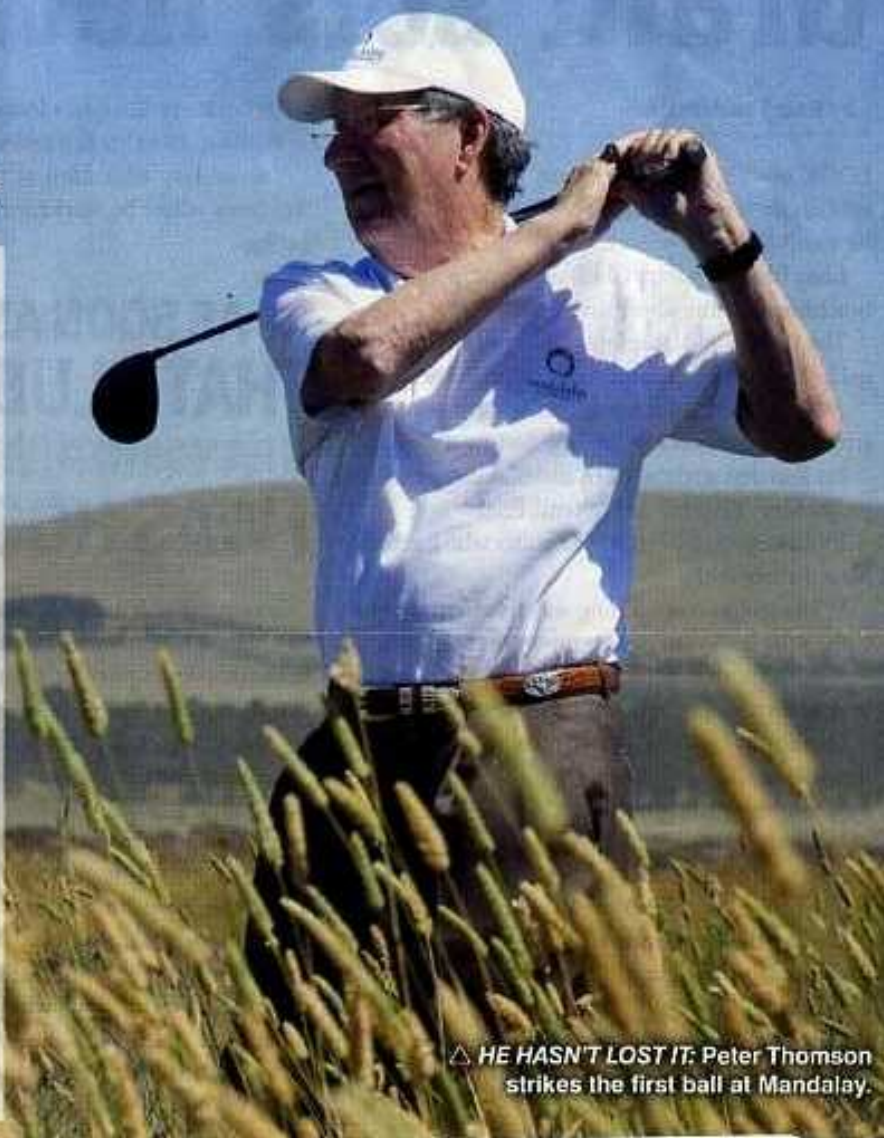
The residential development and golf course have been designed to take in views of the surrounding wetlands which are also planned for the community.

The estate will commence sales on the first stage of residential land in the coming months, bringing much needed supply to the outer northern corridors of Melbourne.

The 18-hole golf course will wrap around the housing estate and the borders of the surrounding ponds and parklands.

With earthworks already underway and the completion of two golf holes, the development will be in full construction mode in the months to come.

The public golf course and clubhouse will be surrounded by lakes, dams and plantings of thousands of native trees which will house an array of wildlife.



△ HE HASN'T LOST IT: Peter Thomson strikes the first ball at Mandalay.