

# THATCHFIELD

By Mandy Adamson

I was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to review Centurions best kept golfing secret in more ways than one. Situated just off the N14 and nestled in the emerging suburb of Thatchfield is the immaculately manicured Thatchfield Golf Academy.



## THE RANGE

*The range caters for every level of golfing fanatic, with 20 target greens of various distances to challenge any club selection. The hitting area consists of both artificial mats and the much sought-after grass bays.*

*For the short game enthusiast there is a large world standard putting green, a dedicated chipping area that accommodates all types of chip shots from chip and run, lob shots to pitching and a challenging bunker practise area to hone every skill.*

*Eugene ??????? is Thatchfields resident PGA professional who is on hand to assist anyone with their game, from beginners through to advanced players.*

## THE 9 HOLE PAR 3 COURSE

*No expense has been spared in building the challenging short course that yields receptive true bent grass greens that are of USGA standards. The layout incorporates the Rietspruit river that winds through the Academy and along with various water features adds some interesting dimensions to each hole.*

*From the gold tees, the holes range from 110m to ???m which makes it a fun and challenging experience for every level of golfer, both young and old and a great place to learn the game as a novice or beginner.*

*The Thatchfield Golf Academy is a great environment for a day of family fun and they offer various membership packages to suit your golfing needs. As a golf enthusiast I recommend that you venture out and experience this highly rated facility for yourself.*



## HOLE 1

**STROKE: 1**

**GOLD TEE: 108m SILVER TEE: 95m**

Hole 1 is the longest hole on the course playing 108m off the gold tee. It plays longer than it looks and is into the prevailing wind so extra club is strongly advised. The large three level green is guarded by a grass bunker front left and a deep sand bunker to the right of the green. The approach should favour the left portion of the green as the general slope of the hole is from left to right. The safe or bail out area is left of the green or long. For the novice golfer the carry from the silver tee over the water is 84m.

## HOLE 2

**STROKE: 3**

**GOLD TEE: 85m SILVER TEE: 73m**

Hole 2 has a narrow two level green playing over a water hazard. The front right portion of the green is the lower level with a sand bunker catching any ball hit long. To carry the water to the left portion of the green is 95m into the prevailing wind with the safe or bail out area being long, left of the green.

## HOLE 3

**STROKE: 4**

**GOLD TEE: 62m SILVER TEE: 50m**

Hole 3 plays down the prevailing wind to a green running right to left and back to front towards the water. Any shot hit short will feed to the left back down the slope into the hazard. The right portion of the green is to be favoured on approach and for the novice golfer the silver tee is less intimidating as it plays more up the full length of the green.

## HOLE 4

**STROKE: 8**

**GOLD TEE: 66m SILVER TEE: 58m**

Hole 4 playing down the prevailing wind has a large receptive undulating green which drops off left down to the Rietspruit. The approach should again favour the right portion to keep the spruit out of play. The safe or bail-out area is to the right of the green.

## HOLE 5

**STROKE: 9**

**GOLD TEE: 69m SILVER TEE: 53m**

Hole 5 is the most straight-forward hole on the course; from tee to green which rates it the easiest hole. Playing down the prevailing wind to a fair undulating green there is plenty of room to approach the green from the right as the Rietspruit will again catch any ball miss-hit to the left or long of the green.

## HOLE 6

**STROKE: 6**

**GOLD TEE: 90m SILVER TEE: 83m**

Hole 6 has a smallish green sloping from back to front with a carry over the water for the novice golfer from the silver tee of 50m. The approach is ideal favouring the right hand side as the Rietspruit again comes into play down the left. The safe or bail out area is long, right of the green.

## HOLE 7

**STROKE: 2**

**GOLD TEE: 80m SILVER TEE: 70m**

Hole 7 offers a long two-level green sloping from back to front with a sand bunker situated left of the green to catch any ball miss-hit left. The safe or bail-out area is long of the green and playing down the prevailing wind makes distance control vital to eliminate lengthy putts on this long green.

## HOLE 8

**STROKE: 7**

**GOLD TEE: 70m SILVER TEE: 65m**


Hole 8 heads back over the Rietspruit to a large narrow green with a carry of 57m for the novice golfer to clear the spruit. The front left and middle of the green has 2 sand bunkers catching any under-club or miss-hit short. The hole plays cross wind left to right with a sand bunker right of the green collecting any shot lost to the right on the wind.

## HOLE 9

**STROKE: 5**

**GOLD TEE: 71m SILVER TEE: 59m**

Hole 9 Plays back into the prevailing wind to a large green with two large sand bunkers situated front left and right of the green. A shot missed left will drop off down towards the Rietspruit. There is 15m run out over the back of the green before you hit the water hazard so the safe bail out area is back, right portion of the green.

**The course is fun and challenging for all abilities and will definitely enhance your short game experience and scoring skills.** 

Thatchfield boasts a driving range and 9 hole par 3 course of world standard both in design and construction.



Where Practice Meets Perfect

