

Groundwater prospects at the Tasmania Golf Club, Barilla Bay

by P. C. Stevenson

The Tasmania Golf Club course, near Barilla Bay east of Hobart, was examined on 30 March 1972 at the request of the Tasmania Golf Club.

The hill on which the course is constructed consists of Lower Triassic quartz sandstone which is seen in outcrop to be massively bedded and in the main with widely spaced joints. Some seepage of water was seen below a thin sandy soil cover on the cliffs on the north and east side, but no substantial springs were seen. Wet patches encountered inland are probably related to the proximity of rock below the surface or to superficial clay.

The area forms part of the Coal River Basin which is described in a published Underground Water Supply Paper (No. 7, Leaman, 1971). Although no bores have been put down within the golf club area, there are great similarities between it and the Midway Point peninsula. Of this Leaman says that although reasonably good water can be expected from springs associated with major bedding zones, drilling will often miss these and that careless pumping will draw saline water in from below sea level.

Typical water qualities from the sandstone around Pitt Water are not good, being in the range 1500-2200 ppm of total dissolved solids, with NaCl forming a large proportion of these. Yields too have been poor, 20.0 gallons/hour being a common value.

In view of the quantities and quality required for watering greens and fairways, further work on the groundwater of the area is unjustified.

Reference

LEAMAN, D. E. 1971. The geology and groundwater resources of the Coal River Basin.
Underground Water Supply Paper Tasmania 7.

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