

New Zealand have registered their eighth Sanctuary Cove victory in the events twelve-year history at the Christchurch Golf Club yesterday.

The Kiwis relied on the experience and in-form players late in the day with New Zealand Seniors champion Stu Duff capping off a great week to maintain a perfect three from three record on debut and claim a vital late point. After starting the day with a 7½ - 4½ lead, things were made extremely difficult with the Australians coming out of the gates on fire to win four of the opening five points on offer to take the lead.

Bob Shirley also made his first appearance at the event to enjoy an impressive two wins from his three matches.

Duff was joined by Brent Paterson and John Batley who together earned three of the last four points on offer to lift the trophy. The first point of the day came from Stu Nicholls, who played in his second Sanctuary Cove Trophy, against one of the leading Australians Geoff Cranfield to stop the early rot.

As we look back at this victory, the day one team points clearly proved pivotal and allowed them a small buffer entering the all-important final day.