*Marc Leishman sot (01:00:32): “I just love summer.”*

*Marc Leishman sot: “About the only time I have shoes on in the summer is when I'm either out to dinner or at the golf course. So, I love getting out, getting my feet on the ground. There's just something about being connected to the Earth in some way.”*

*Audrey: “Obsessed?”*

*(01:09:40) Marc Leishman sot: “My dad was over, and the lawn was completely dormant. I wondered if this would work if I just burned it. It's probably illegal, by the way.”*

*Audrey Leishman sot: “It was nighttime and so I could very clearly see as I'm pulling up to the house that the lawn is on fire.”*

*Marc Leishman sot: “[Laugh]”*

*Audrey Leishman sot: “And I walk in and I asked them, ‘why is the lawn on fire?’ And Marc goes, ‘it's my preparation, it'll pay off.’”*

*PGA TOUR Entertainment presents:*

*Annc: “And the man from down under goes wire-to-wire//with the biggest victory of his career!”*

Marc Leishman sot: (01:01:02) “I love it when all the trees start budding up and getting leaves and the grass starts turning green. And then that means that I'll be able to get the mower out pretty soon after that and give it a trim.”

Audrey Leishman sot: “We get home from a trip and he will kick off his shoes and will be in the backyard mowing the lawn barefoot within 10 minutes of us being home.”

Marc Leishman sot: (01:02:44) “It's certainly a passion bordering on obsession.”

**THERE HAS TO BE A METAPHOR IN THERE SOMEWHERE.**

**A QUEST FOR PERFECTION?**

**ATTENTION TO DETAIL?**

**COMFORT IN THE ROUTINE?**

Audrey Leishman sot: (01:02:10) “It's all become kind of a joke, Marc mowing the lawn once a day. And the neighbors think he's crazy and ask him all the time why he mows the lawn once a day.”

Marc Leishman sot: (01:01:25) “I like the short lawns. That’s how they are back home in Australia. I like them firm and then you can get the stripes on and all that. I kind of became obsessed with how I could get stripes on it and just make it look like a green even though it didn’t play like one. It's kind of become an obsession, I guess.

**FOR MARC LEISHMAN, THESE QUIRKS ARE SUPRISING, CONSIDERING THE STOIC PERSONA HE PORTRAYS WEEKLY ON THE FAIRWAYS AND GREENS OF THE PGA TOUR.**

Audrey Leishman sot: “He's about as easygoing and laid back, as you can get. I always say that Aussies are laid back. And then you meet the Leishmans, and they take laid back to a whole other level.”

**BUT DIG A LITTLE DEEPER AND THE COMFORT THAT LEISHMAN FINDS IN A PERFECT LAWN, MIGHT JUST BE MASKING A YEARNING TO BE CLOSER TO HIS AUSSIE ROOTS.**

Pelita sot (01:35:46): “Marc was a really quiet little boy when growing up, always into his water, anything with a ball. Always in the dirt, mud.”

Marc Leishman sot: (01:23:27) “It was a great spot to grow up. // We used to do a fair bit of body boarding, golf, cricket, all sort of things. // So it was, really, really good memories growing up in Warrnambool.”

Paul sot: (01:21:53) “Warrnambool, we've probably got about 35, 40,000 people, pretty much a big country town. Great area for kids, got the beach, good golf course, yeah.”

**THE WARRNAMBOOL (WARN-um-bull) GOLF CLUB. TUCKED IN THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF TOWN AT THE END OF, NOT SURPRISINGLY, MARC LEISHMAN DRIVE.**

**A TRIBUTE TO THE MAN, WHO, AS A BOY, ALONGSIDE HIS FATHER, HONED HIS GAME THERE.**

Marc Leishman sot: “He was a bricklayer until about ten years ago. // now he works // at a local golf course in the pro shop.

Nats: “Good on you Mark. Do you know who you’re playing with? Yeah, Phil, Blaine and Leon.”

Marc Leishman sot: “When I'm home // I can go there and do my job while he's doing his, so it's nice.”

Pelita sot: (01:37:53) He was always in the backyard with a golf stick. Christy, his sister, wore one across the head. [LAUGH]. // He was always driven by golf right from the word go.”

Paul Leishman sot: (01:23:12) “At the start, he used to follow me to the golf course. // he started playing and loved the game. But he played all other sports as well, football, cricket, and then there came a time he had to make a decision.”

Craig Bonney sot: (01:47:23) “He was pretty good, and he was very natural. Obviously playing down here, you gotta be a very good wind player. // So he could really flight the ball on different heights. So yeah, he impressed me straight away with that attribute.“

Marc Leishman sot: (01:24:55) “When I was 13, I won the Club Championship, the Men's A-Grade Club Championship.”

Paul Leishman sot 1: (01:27:44) “We were in the last group on the last day and he happened to beat me. So, that's [LAUGH],”

Marc Leishman sot: (01:26:11) “It was pretty exciting. I remember standing up there and a big crowd of people came over to congratulate me. It was a pretty proud moment for Dad I'm sure and myself as well.”

Pelita sot: (01:40:35) “That was dynamite. Marc was as determined as Paul was to win. // (01:39:12) and it was just great walking around, watching him. I mean, Paul was so proud.”

Paul Leishman sot: (01:27:54) “Everyone said to me, ‘did you let him win?’ I said, ‘no, I didn't let him win. [LAUGH]’. So, no, I was very proud, yeah.”

Marc Leishman sot: (01:25:05) “I was very excited about it. Wasn't till I was probably 16 or 17 that I really thought, well, I can make a living out of this.”

Craig Bonney sot: (01:55:43) “He's always won at different levels. So yeah, I think early days, I thought, gee, he could really do something here, yeah.”

**THE SKILLS HE REFINED AT THE WARRNAMBOOL GOLF CLUB PREPARRED MARC FOR THE NEXT LEVEL. IN 2007, HE HEADED TO THE UNITED STATES AND PLAYED HIS WAY ONTO THE KORN FERRY TOUR. ONE YEAR LATER, HE WON HIS FIRST EVENT AT THE WNB GOLF CLASSIC.**

Pelita sot: (01:41:18) “I was so pumped. And then the day that he//got his card to go on the PGA Tour. That was, I'll never forget that day.”

**THE FOLLOWING SEASON, HE BECAME THE FIRST AUSTRALIAN TO WIN PGA TOUR ROOKIE-OF-THE-YEAR HONORS, ESTABLISHING HIMSELF AS AN INTERNATIONAL PRESENCE.**

Annc: (16/31GF – 01:03:13) “We have a new champion in golf. His name is Marc Leishman.”

Paul sot: “(01:30:38) You think, ‘hold on. // he's winning PGA Tour events’. // you have to pinch yourself and think, ‘he's not going too bad here [laugh].’”

**MARC’S INNAUGURAL PGA TOUR VICTORY WOULD PROPELL HIM ONTO THE FIRST OF THREE SUCCESSIVE PRESIDENTS CUP TEAMS…**

Annc: “Representing the International Team, Marc Leishman.”

**WHICH WAS VERY SPECIAL TO HIM, FOR THE AUSSIE HAD WITNESSED THE INTERNATIONAL TEAM’S LONE VICTORY IN 1998 AS A 15-YEAR-OLD.**

Annc: (02:48:31) “And the International team, for the first time, has captured the Presidents cup.”

Marc Leishman sot: (01:27:44) “I was in the stands on the 18th. I remember watching the guys hit in. //And I remember I almost missed the bus back to Warrnambool, because I stayed for a little too long.”

**AND NOW HE WAS REPRESENTING AUSTRALIA ON THE BIG STAGE.**

Annc: (13 pcup 01:49:09) “And boy, has 18 been good to the Internationals! Leishman takes out Kuchar.”

Annc: (15pcup) “Leishman…that’s one way to do it, drops it in for birdie.”

Annc: (17pcup) - 01:01:16) “And it goes in! Are you kidding me?”

Craig Bonney sot: “We've still gotta pinch ourselves what he's actually done, as far as being a world player. Sometimes you'll forget how hard it is // to get onto the PGA Tour, let alone to win and win multiple times, and be there for ten years. He's pretty amazing.”

Annc: “Annc: (03:13:35) “What a performance. Marc Leishman wins the CIMB Classic, and he wins it easily.

**NOW A FOUR-TIME WINNER ON THE PGA TOUR, MARC LEISHMAN HAS, INDEED, PROVED HE’S A CUT ABOVE THE REST. BUT, AT HEART, HE’S STILL THAT LITTLE KID FROM WARRNAMBOOL.**

Paul sot 5: (01:32:38) “He’s still Marc. He’s still the same. Loves his family, loves his kids, his wife. Same lad he was when he left here. And I don't think he'll change.”

Pelita sot: (01:42:23) “Marc's just Marc. // This doesn't change him at all. He's still the crazy boy he was when he was 13. // Still playing in the mud.”

**AND NOW, AS ONE OF THE INTERNATIONAL TEAM’S ELDER STATESMAN, HE LEADS THE TEAM’S RETURN TO THE ROYAL MELBOURNE GOLF CLUB.**

Pelita sot: (01:43:34) “Just amazing and awesome to see Marc represent his country is the best thing. We love Australia // his country is everything to him.”

Marc Leishman sot: (01:26:35) “It's gonna be amazing at Royal Melbourne. My boyhood idol Ernie Els is the captain. // We’re not just playing under the international flag. We're playing under our flag and that's gonna be cool. // Put a big emphasis on that in my own country, so I'm definitely excited about it. // I can't wait.”

Paul sot 6: (01:33:40) “There's gonna be a lot of support from around here. It's tough to win one, get one off the Americans, but hopefully in Australia we'll have a fair crack at it.

Marc Leishman sot: “there'll be other kids there. Doing the same thing as I was always doing, hopefully. Not missing buses but getting close to missing buses because we're, hopefully, gonna win this thing. //and lift that cup again.”

Pelita sot: “Gotta go Aussies, go internationals this time. [LAUGH]”

**WHATEVER THE OUTCOME IN MELBOURNE, YOU CAN REST ASSURED MARC LEISHMAN’S STATUS AS AN AUSSIE STAR IS SECURRED.**

**AND AS A STAR, WHO HAPPENS TO LOVE CUTTING GRASS, CERTAIN PRIVILEDGES COME WITH THIS ELEVATED STATUS.**

Leishman sot 1: (01:00:00) “It’s one of the biggest arenas in the world…some of the biggest Australian events are here every year, and somewhere I grew up coming to, but never thought I’d get out here to cut the grass.”

Leishman sot 2:(01:13:18) “Done, now the next thing to do is do it again! Yeah, that was cool.”

**OH YES, THE METAPHOR YOU ASK? HOW ABOUT THE SWEET SMELL OF SUCCESS…?**

**OR RATHER… FRESHLY MOWN GRASS.**

Leishman sot 3: (01:03:28) “I probably get more recognition for that than I do my golf to be honest. // I was walking through a hotel // and this bloke come up to me and he goes, ‘That’s Leishman! That’s Leishman.’ And he’s like, ‘You know, the guy who cuts his grass all the time.’ And she’s like, ‘Oh yeah! That’s awesome!’ So, // Man of many talents.”