



Cannon & balls!

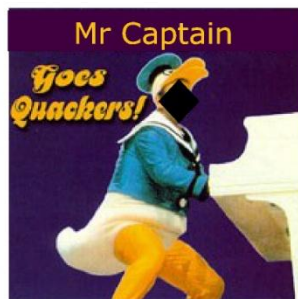


The Members' Newsletter of
Blackburn Golf Club

No 20 Summer 2014



Multi Award winning mag for & by the
members of Blackburn Golf Club.



Please see inside - Captain goes
Quackers, LC as mad as a hatter!

Lady Captain's Report



Well it's incredible to think that I'm already half way through the year but I certainly started it in fine style with a trip out to Dubai in March, courtesy of my lovely brother. We played at the Emirates Majilis Course, home to the Desert Classic (pics attached) and the Els Course, which was truly majestic. Sunshine and great service is certainly the ideal way to play golf but there's no place like home and I always count my blessings to be back at BGC.

The season got going early doors with the start of our Archie Preston title defence – there was no bye in the preliminary round, even for the reigning champions! Against form we got a home draw against Antrobus, which was eventually played on 6th April after a postponement for bad weather in March. After a tight match we clinched a 4-3 win and moved into the first round proper. Another home draw saw us host Reddish Vale on 1st May and this time it was a more comfortable victory, 5-2 on paper as we called the national players in from the unseasonably cold May winds. Our next match is away at Chorley on Sunday 22nd June; the 10.30 tee time might challenge some on the morning after Lady President's Day but like England there'll be a strict no drinking (etc.) rule before a big game!

Lady Captains Drive-In got us properly underway on Easter Monday and even the Easter Bunny turned out to play. (pics attached) As usual golf was followed by much cake eating and the delights on offer from many of the ladies were delicious as ever.

The ladies bronze and handicap teams are now well into their league matches, as well as the Bell Cup team (bit like the men's Dunham Forest), who played their first match on 3rd May. A tough away draw at Blackley saw the national match going down the 19th to decide the outcome. Lady Vice Captain, Mary, held her nerve to win the hole and secure an overall 4-3 victory; a great win by the team who now face Accrington away in the next round.

Following the stress of the Archie Preston and Bell Cup matches in the first few days of May, the ladies decided to relax (ahem) on our annual trip away, which this year took us to Hollins Hall at Shipley. Who knew it was a sheer climb up to the first tee !?!? The tough guys (Andrea and Julie) who decided, against advice, to walk up instead of getting the recommended lift from John the buggy man soon regretted it but it must have done them some good because they took glory on the first day. Janet and Georgina romped home on day two, despite Janet being one of the noisy neighbours complained about by a guest the night before. We shall say the visit from the night duty manager was a bit over the top and he most certainly had ulterior motives ...



The LC



**So that's what's meant
by a 'Bevvy' of Beauties!**



**Cakes &
no Ale?**



Glenn tells it how it is!

Regrettably the message is the same as last year.

We need as many new members as possible, the best weather to drive green fee incomes, as many private parties as we can accommodate, and hot weather to drive up bar sales.

We need to continue to control our cash as tightly as possible. Only spending on things which require replacing or investing in items which we believe will drive the club forward and bring more revenue in.

We need to replace our greens mower and just ordered one which has reel motors on the cutters rather than hydraulic driven motors. This eliminates the hydraulic leaks which cause burn lines on the greens and ruin them for a period of time. Another positive step forward for the club!

Kind regards

Glenn Smith
Honorary Treasurer

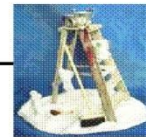
So, we need more members, Club House used more, events supported. Ed.

YOU...do something!

Ducksbury Park?



Salty Duck for tea?



Phil Pearson
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For a quote.



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members.

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That painting's very Daliesque!



This coffee's a bit "earthy"!

Keith Taylor fondly Remembered on Tour.



Wonder how lads are doing?



Where's those rolls of wall paper gone?

Update on Seniors Section—John Ellson

Well it's now the end of May and we are already one third of the way through our 2014 Fixtures which traditionally started with our first match against Stonyhurst..

Team results this season to date could be better but it is early days and we hope to improve on last year's result of a majority of wins over both the home and away matches.

Our objective is to bring together any members over 55yrs and offer organised regular matches in an informal environment. Games are organised on 13 local courses all of which present challenges in different ways. The principle is that the variety of courses should improve the overall standard of our game – but how often do principle and reality come together?

The starting sheets for these matches are on our board 2 weeks before the games are played and this year we have been very encouraged by the demand for places.

When there are no organised fixtures we meet at the clubhouse on Tuesdays and Thursdays for a bit of a chinwag to sort the world out and the balls are drawn out of the hat for partners. That way we encourage members to socially mix and generally enjoy the day – golf permitting.

You would be most welcome to join us - just come along - and we would make you most welcome. Cannot guarantee to improve the golf though!



**From the Dug Out.
Our Drain Brain is trenchant.
Bring back the Burch!**



JUNE GREENS REPORT

The season is now underway. The course is playing well with some fantastic scores in the recent competitions.

The most important piece of equipment, the greens mower, is in urgent need of replacement. This machine is 16 years old and is in constant need of repair. This machine uses old technology hydraulic motors that are prone to leakage and many parts that are on the machine are obsolete.

Mr Glenn Smith (Hon Treasurer) is negotiating with suppliers to find the best deal on a new machine. The preferred machine is a John Deere 2500E Hybrid Triplex. Head Greenkeeper, Mr Ian Shaw, is at this moment in time trialling this model that has been supplied by Balmers.

A 'comments box' has been placed near the computer in the main lounge. Any members with ideas about how the course might be improved are welcome to submit their suggestions and they will be reviewed at the next greens meeting. This is in addition to the recent greens survey that highlighted that our current practice facilities are not up to the required standard.

The growth on the course never stopped during the very mild winter period. This is now creating a problem of getting this growth under control and constant cutting is now being undertaken by the greens staff.

The trees at the right-hand side of the 1st fairway have been cut back to the line of 'out of bounds'. The trees on the right-hand side of the 18th fairway have been pruned to facilitate easier mowing in this area. The next area planned to be pruned is between the 10th and 11th fairways.

Tony's the Member we should all aspire to be...gets on with things, quietly, effectively...with no song & dance! All Whingers at the Bar, please note! Ed.

Tony Burch
Chairman of Greens
June 2014

How our club works!

Council is the ruling body of the Club. It's chaired by Mr Captain.

When Captain takes his year of office at the AGM, usually in January, he determines his "team" of Chairs of sub committees. These are Greens (currently Tony Burch), Mel Glibbrand is in charge of Comps including Handicaps assisted by Dave Smeds & Sean Lang on comps and Gary Bolton on H/Caps. House and Social/fund raising is Pres. Finance is Stephen Matthews (Chair). & Marketing (Chris Nunner).

Sub Committees get on with their roles:- making sure the course is at it's best in the short & longer term, for big comps & over winter, sorting out Comps arrangements, exposing handicap bandits, sorting out dos & the fabric of the building, making sure our finances are robust & resilient & boosting the standing of the Club retaining & recruiting it's life blood-playing members.

Sub Committees meet every month of so & report into Council. Sub Committees can co-opt non Council members to share out onerous & thankless duties. Don't whinge - join in!

Council receives reports from sub committees, airs & shares ideas, discusses & makes decisions.

Council is made up of:- office holders (car park space holders NOT including award winning C&B Ed!)...

The Hon Sec is the key Club servant/employee. He carries out the wishes of the Club as expressed by the Council or Captains.

We also employ the Pro, Alan Rodwell, Head Greenkeeper, Ian Shaw, & the Steward (currently advertised). They too have stable teams.

In our next, How the Club works, we'll explore how to become officers. Rather than just being a PITA Whinge Bag!

Notes from House.

Car park has been repaired & white lined.
Hanging baskets & begonias in place. Well Done, Percy President Thrower! Ed.
Car Park Raffle raised £500, spaces won by Ian Marsden & Tim Murphy.

Dates for your diary

21 June Lady Presidents Day	6 September Fund Raising Day.
12 July Captains Day	Disabled Golf Day 19 th September
26 July Lady Captains Day	
23 August Presidents Day	



We are holding a Pro Am on Monday 18 August, shotgun start at 1.30 pm, bacon barmcakes & coffee from 12 noon, 3 course dinner in the evening, teams of 3 plus pro, cost £180 plus VAT.

The View from the Bridge.



The new golfing season has got off to a great start both in terms of the weather which has been good in the main, and the condition of the course which, for the time of year, is better than I have seen in years.

Having just entertained some 120 members of the Lancashire Ladies Veteran Golf Association and received numerous compliments on how good the Greens and Fairways are, it bodes well for the summer if the weather holds good.

The majority of the Clubs membership subscriptions have now been paid, and with a significant increase in our Social Membership, bar sales will hopefully increase over the course of the year. Whilst speaking of the bar, members will no doubt have noticed that we have now changed out beer supplies from In Bev to Thwaites and have widened the range of products on offer. Emergency runs to the brewery for additional supplies seems to point to the members enjoying the change!!

Phil Cooper has decided to hang up his apron and will be leaving his position as Steward/Caterer on June 9th. The opportunity exists for someone to take over these roles and anyone interested should contact the office for details.

The World Cup is due to start in June, and we intend to celebrate an England win over Italy on June 14th with a massive barbeque outside before the start of the game which will be shown live in the Clubhouse at 11.00pm.

The repairs to the office wall to stop the water ingress and the follow up decoration undertaken by our own Phil Pearson has left the girls feeling high as kites from the paint fumes but it was all worthwhile.

Hope all our members have a great summer and that the golfing Gods look down favourably on them.

Cheerio Folks !

Th'Orrible Secretary



Easter Medal

- 1st A Rakestraw 88-19-69
- 2nd P Carruthers 86-16-70 Acp
- 3rd T Clarke 82-12-70 Acp
- Best Gross M Co on 78

ELGA Qualif ng Comp

- 1st C Clarke 82 – 13 – 69ACP
- 2nd D W Smedley 76 – 7 – 69ACP
- 3rd G Harrison 75 – 6 – 69ACP
- 4th S Wilcock 80 – 10 – 70ACP
- Best Gross S Malone 77

Professional's Comp

- 1st A J Pomfret 76-13-63
- 2nd M R Gillibrand 71-7-64
- 3rd L Ormerod 75-10-65
- 4th G Reid 81-15-66
- Gross M Hartley 69

Walter Clegg Prize

- 1st S J Mathews 68-4-64
- 2nd M Edwards 86-20-66
- 3rd M Graham 78-11-67
- 4th J White 81-14-67
- Category Prize C Leach 92-25-67

**WINNERS & WELL
DONES!**



Best Gross S Malone 74
Whiaker Trophy (over 60yrs) 24/05/14

- 1st K J Thomson 91-20-71
- 2nd P Niemeyer 95-23-72
- 3rd D Colling 85-12-73

Extra Medal 24/05/14

- 1st J Pomfret 84-18-66
- 2nd S Malone 74-4-70
- 3rd S Mousdale 84-14-70
- Gross G Harrison 77

Memorial Trophy

- 1st Stephen Malone 71 - 4 - 67
- 2nd P Waring 74 – 7 - 67 acp
- 3rd B Pease 85 – 18 - 67 acp
- 4th A Harwood 69 – 1 - 68
- Category Prize A Heyworth 96 –27-69
- Gross S J Ma hews 73

Please if you win or nearly do!

Send a Pic in, golf related, compromising, funny, to:-
sirbilltaylor@btinternet.com



From the locker room with R. Sawle



The new comp on season seems to come round faster every year. No sooner has winter league finished than we are into the Easter medal, the prospective A/B team candidates playing practice matches and club competitions including the various knockouts. Board competitions soon follow and before we all know without wishing the season away we will be thinking about playing in the Winter League again. Perhaps it is just an age thing exclusive to me!!

Since the last edition on the Blackburn Bulls trip to York has been and gone. The trip seems to have passed off without much incident or perhaps to be more accurate none that anyone is talking about. Sad part of the trip was the injury suffered by the very capable organiser Neil Fitzmaurice early on the first day. After all the planning etc this must have been very frustrating for him as it curtailed his golf for the rest of the trip. I am sure we all wish him a speedy recovery

The club has had the car park re-lined which is a great improvement. It seems a shame that there are a minority of members who seem unable to grasp the concept that the flow of traffic is one-way. This is clearly marked by the white arrows on the surface which are surely large enough to indicate the way to go. Despite this some members still insist on coming in the "wrong way" round which is a danger to other members either crossing the car park or loading or unloading their golf equipment from their cars and oncoming traffic. Unfortunately golfers being golfers many arrive short of time for their allotted tee off times and the problem is exacerbated by the fact they often drive in at speed. The sooner this practice stops the better

On a lighter note the generosity of the President as those who have shared his company are aware knows no bounds. However recently he has taken this to a new level. He very kindly donated some bottles of wine as prizes for a recent quiz night. It transpired that amongst them was a Xmas gift from his daughter which was apparent from the endorsement she had put on the label. To make matters worse the bottle was won by a team of which his wife was a member. This could have been good or bad. Bad as it turned out when she told everyone about it including his daughter. More so if you give presents away always check for tell tale markings!!

Good luck to all golfers for the season.

R Sawle



Bish, Bash, Wallop, what a picture!

Remember these? We need new ones! **PLEASE!**



Read all about it!

SATURDAY, MAY 31, 2014

Golf captain's hospice boost



Blackburn Golf Club member Mike Ashton raised £2,430 for the Dorian House children's hospice in Chorley during his year of captaincy, helped by members. He is pictured with Roya Khadem, the hospice's fundraising and administration co-ordinator.

Girls just want to have won!

EWGA Medal 29 Hole Comp 01/04/14

- 1st Janet Ingham 92-19-73
- 2nd Andrea Robinson 91-14-77
- 3rd Michelle Whalley 99-22-77



Spring Meet hg 08/04/14

- 1st Nicola McGlynn 80-8-72
- 2nd Janet Ingham 98-18-80
- 3rd Julie Trinder 100-19-81

1st Hamer Quali er 15/04/14

- 1st Andrea Robinson 86-14-72
- 2nd Janet Ingham 93-18-75
- 3rd Julie Trinder 94-19-75



Scot Legea Quali er 22/04/14

- 1st J. Trinder/M. Whalley 41 points
- 2nd L. Watson/J. Ingham 29 points

Club Foursomes 22/04/14

- 1st J. Trinder/M. Whalley 41 points
- 2nd M. Singleton/J. Thornber 32 points

2nd Hamer Quali er 29/01/14

- 1st Leah Watson 84-12-72
- 2nd Michelle Whalley 94-22-72
- 3rd Mary Singleton 94-20-74

EWGA Medal & Handicap Shield & Annie Chambers Quali er

- 1st Anisha Bateman 85-20-65
- 2nd Claire Jackman 90-21-69
- 3rd Janet Hartley 109-36-73

Stonehouse Cup

- 1st Julie Trinder



2nd Claire Jackman

- 3rd Janet Ingham

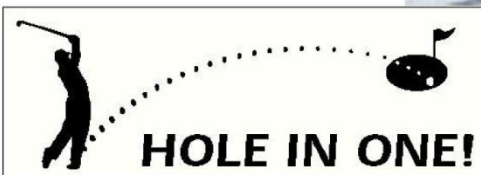
Stableford held on 3rd June 2014

- 1st Janet Hartley
- 2nd Leah Watson
- 3rd Anisha Bateman

Captains Charity Invitat on (10th May) Nigel Whalley & R. Sinclair

Evening Mixed (6th May) Janet Ingham & Nigel Shuker

Brenda Salt Memorial (B/burn) v Hyton & Presco (4th May) Blackburn



Whilst the Bard of the Bunkers Dreams...

Playing in the club Open 4 Ball on Bank Holiday Monday 26th May Junior Member **Michael Sumner** had a hole in one on the 16th. 15 year old Michael was playing with his uncle Club Captain Peter, his Grandfather Michael and Simon Raine, Captain of Clitheroe. This is the 4th time Michael has achieved a hole in one, a remarkable feat for one so young. Michael is a pupil at Merchant Taylor's school in Crosby, and is a member of the Lancashire and England under 16 golf teams. In true club tradition the Captain put a bottle of scotch on the bar, but Michael was confined to orange juice.



Sorry if this newsletter contains any mistakes or omissions, we apologise.

Next deadline 29th Aug 2014 Thanks for reading.

Support our sponsors!

Submit something for possible publication? **Always glad of any photos!**

Contact me on **07768 793312** or **sirbilltaylor@btinternet.com**

Also see Facebook William George Taylor for many BGC pix!