



## Minehead and West Somerset Golf Club Newsletter



### Message from Paul Fullbrook, The Club Chairman.



A Happy Belated Easter to our Members.

Thank you to everybody who attended the 132nd AGM on Saturday 28th March, and for the positive vibe that oozed from the Meeting!

A warm welcome to the new MC Members and for their commitment to our Club in the important coming years. Graham Walsh is full of enthusiasm and gusto, so I trust we will all support him in the forthcoming Social Events. Dave Dennis has promised to get to grips with the "Bandits" that seem to be winning the recent Competitions, with outrageous scores!!

Well done to the "Work Parties" that continue to carry out some fantastic work in and around the Club House & on the Course.

Finally, let us all think about etiquette & decorum whilst we are at our Club or representing our Club. Personal polite behaviour conducted in a courteous manner to one and all.....

### Phil Arbourne, Club

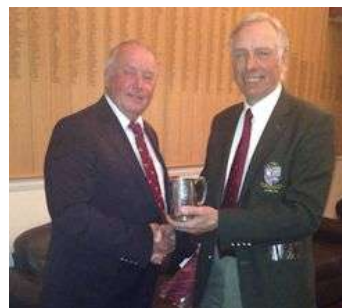
**Captain.** I start my last contribution to the Newsletter with an apology. In the Tuesday Swindle of the 3rd of



February the plonkers were NOT John Fulwell, Brian Lewis and Paul Beck, but rather Robin Jones, Barry Gahame and our Tabellenführer Derek Stevens. So to the Swindle competitions for March. That of the 3rd was won by Dorrien Bickerstaff, John Griffin and Gordon Cunningham (77 Par 80) and plonkers were Colin Mower, Gerry Mason and Nigel Morgan with 60. On the 10th the team of Nicky Bangs, Malcolm McNeil and Dan Day were victorious with 89 (Par 86) and the plonkers this time were Brian Lewis, Derek Dascombe and yours truly, with a score of 68. The competition of the 17th was an interesting mix of Stableford and Medal (Medal out, Stableford back, Par 35) and the winners were Frank Phillipson, Francis Hewson and Gary Green with 28. Plonkers were Adrian Langdon, John Duckworth and Paul Handisyde with 48. On the 24th the victors were Derek Stevens, Colin Corlett and Nicky Bangs with 86 (par), and the plonkers were Derek Hillenbrand, Gordon Cunningham and Derek Dascombe with 68. Finally, on the last day of the month, in not very good conditions, the winners were Jack McLay, Chris Bingham and Graham Wells with 70 and

the plonkers were Frank Phillipson, Brian Levey and Nicky Bangs with 54.

On a very personal note, I have thoroughly enjoyed my year as your



Captain and I am very grateful to all members and friends for their support. We should be proud of our Club and all that it entails. However, it was still with great pleasure that I presented our new Captain Phil Bowden

with his ties, letter and tankard on the evening of our Annual General Meeting and his club jacket on the very wet and windy morning of the following day. I wish him all the best and I know he will do a great job.



### Kay Luckett, Lady Captain.

Here we are again. The latter part of March has seen the first matches for the Ladies taking place, with the

Ladies Mixed Invite and Skylark on Sunday 22nd March, a Greensomes was played with Phil Bowden & Kay Luckett the winners with 44 pts, 2nd Wayne Clarke & Maxine Wilkinson with 41pts, 3rd Paul & Corinne Rees with 40pts, 4th Dave Oatridge & Sue Prentice with 38pts, I must say an enjoyable afternoon was had by all.

The Salvors have now started, the Met for the bronze and Quantock for the silver players, these are both played as triangular matches against Enmore and Taunton & Pickeridge. In the Met Salver played at home Minehead came out on top with 15pts, well done Ladies, in the Quantock Salver Minehead & Enmore tied with 11pts, Taunton & Pickeridge making 20pts. I must say I enjoyed the Captain's Drive In on Sunday 29th March, even if it was held in a howling gale. I did manage to hit the ball!!!

On the 1st, 2nd & 3rd May the Somerset Ladies County Championship is taking place at Minehead, so do come and support.

New Ladies and beginners do not forget 7th June our Meet & Greet Day with fun chipping and putting all are welcome, I am sure many of our lady members have friends they could persuade to come and have ago.

Margaret Stone retired at the end of March, we all wish her a happy retirement.

### Dave Williams, Seniors Captain



This is my last newsletter as Captain. It has been for only a short time due to the Seniors deciding to

change their Captaincy year to match that of the club. I have enjoyed it very much indeed and I wish my successor



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Stephen Kaye, all the very best for your year.

March has been a very interesting month with a lot going on. We played Libberton at home on the 4th losing 2.5 – 4.5. The Warreners at home on the 18th Graham Wright will want to claim bragging rights for that one. My last match as Captain was at Taunton and Pickeridge which we managed to lose 6



– 0. Not a very good record was it?

The Seniors entered 2 teams in the Peter Trago day, neither

embarrassing ourselves, in fact we all thought that I was going to gain a new set of irons and a very large bar bill, my ball just shaving the hole on the 14th.

Earlier in the month 14 of us had a very enjoyable Seniors Captains away day at The Dorset Golf and Country Club nr Wareham.

Thank you to Vice Captain Steve, Secretary Graham and all the Seniors Section members for helping to make by part year so enjoyable.

To finish I want to give a very big thank you to Phil



Arbourne the immediate past Club Captain for the way he has helped bring the Club and the Seniors Section even closer together, long may it continue.

## The Course, Graham J Wells



February was a very busy month for our greenkeepers handling large amounts of landfill which brings the total

received to nearly £25k during the first two months of the year. Some of this money will be used on vital projects on the course, notably the new training and practice facility but also for a new and much needed rough mower, bunker improvement and reconstruction and fairway over-seeding on which we have had to postpone work in the recent year's difficult economic circumstances. Some of the landfill is now being used to raise the height of the existing bank along the left side of the 3rd fairway. The conifers there will be removed and the area replanted with native local species as will the whole of the top of the bank around the greenkeepers compound.

Meanwhile, drainage at the bottom of the bank along the left side of the 5th fairway has been laid and the beginnings of a buggy path alongside it partially constructed. (This path will eventually lead right the way down to the raised 5th tee once all the landfill

has been delivered there later this year). The old condemned hut and its foundations have been removed in preparation for the practice range. Several visitors have commented in complimentary fashion on the condition of the course, notably the greens (but not some of the bunkers!). In March we will be preparing to cope with Rob Barrett beginning a well earned 3 week break so please be tolerant (and let us know!) of any shortcomings in course maintenance during his time away during which we will endeavour to resolve them with a request for volunteer working parties if they can help.



## Jayne Fulwell Marketing and Premises.

Sunday May 10th at 12.30 we are holding a "Get Back into Golf" Open Day to Recruit New Members.

In the next couple of weeks information about this open day will be going out in a mail drop and there will be leaflets available in the club. If you know anyone who used to play golf, either at Minehead or elsewhere, please encourage them to come along. They will get the chance to play a few holes, have tea and cake in the clubhouse and meet John Bickerton, our European Tour Winner Professional. We need to recruit more members to keep your

fees down and to generate extra revenue for the club, so if you know anyone who is interested please take a leaflet for them.

## Graham Walsh - Opens organiser, Bar & Social.



There are still few places available for the 'Seniors Open' on Wed 6th

May. There are plenty of prizes to be won also the half way house will be open for drinks & light refreshments

The first club night of the new season will be held on Friday 1st may this will be a quiz night, teams of 4 with our very own professional quizmaster Mr Tony Bowden the cost of the evening will be £10.00 per person to include quiz entry, prizes & food (cottage pie/veg or lasagne & salad)

FOOD SERVED 6:45 – 7:30 QUIZ 7:45\*\*£100 MEMBERS JACKPOT DRAW\*\*YOU MUST BE IN THE CLUBHOUSE AT THE TIME OF THE DRAW TO WIN THE JACKPOT\*\* £100 1ST PRIZE FOR THE WINNING TEAM\*\*RAFFLE\*\*WINE £10 A BOTTLE\*\*

COME ALONG AND SUPPORT YOUR CLUB.

If anyone has any suggestions for future club nights please see Mr Archer or me at any time.