



Minehead and West Somerset Golf Club Newsletter



Phil Bowden, Club Captain

We had our presentation night during November and congratulations must go to all members who won trophies during the year. It was nice to see so many members turn up on the evening, and a superb buffet was laid on, and thanks must go to both the catering and bar staff for their tirelessly working throughout the evening. Thanks must also go to Tony Bowden for hosting a sports quiz which was enjoyed by all.

The first Tuesday Swindle of November saw 44 members playing, and with teams of 4 the host Derek Stevens decided on a format of 2 to count on the par 5's, 3 everywhere else and all to count on the last. The winning team with a score of 109 points (5 under par) were Francis Hewson, Richard Glenn, Mike Shortland and Frank Phillipson. Lowest score of the day came from Malcolm McNeill, Derek Dascombe, Terry Daley and

Alan Ridgeway with 84 points (20 over par).

The swindle played on the 10th November with a format of 3 to count on the par 3's and 2 everywhere else was won with a score of 83 points (3 under par) by Nick Bangs, Colin Corlett and Dave Singleton. The plonkers of the day were, Gordon Cunningham, Bill Oldfield and Derek Stevens who came in with 67 points (13 over par).

For the 3rd swindle of November only 24 members played in very blustery conditions. With a 4BBB the format the winning pair were Captain Phil and Mark Johnson with 35 points (1 over par). Lowest score of the day came from John Duckworth and John Griffin with 20 points.

Final swindle of the month saw 42 members put their names down to play, but with the rain falling and the wind gusting only half ended up braving the elements. Best score of the day came from Andy Pacey, Pete Murphy and Terry Daley with 71 points. Lowest score of the day was 61 points achieved by Geoff Fewings, Jeff

Bird and Mike Bowater. Well done to all that played.

Finally with Christmas fast approaching I would like to wish all members and their families a very enjoyable Christmas and a happy and prosperous new year.

Dorrien Bickerstaff, Club Vice Captain.

As the season draws to a close, nearly all the competitions are successfully



completed. A most enjoyable night was held at the presentation evening and many thanks to all those who helped to make the evening such a success. The Buchanan draws to a conclusion on Sunday 13th December with the Cup, the Plate and the Consolation all up for grabs. So far we've had thick fog and then howling gales so hopefully we're due for some unseasonal balmy sunshine! Just the one Turkey Trot to go and then we are into the Captains Winter 4BBB. Season's Greetings to one and all.

Kay Lockett, Lady Captain

With all the matches finished for the season life seems a little quieter than usual. The Club v Ladies had to be cancelled at the



beginning of November due to adverse weather conditions, it is hoped to play this match in March of 2016.

The Somerset Ladies County Golf Association held their AGM at the Isle of Wedmore, representatives from Minehead attended and received the trophy presented to the Club for being runners up in the Centenary Plate, again well done to Jayne Webber & Linda Trump for playing so well in the final at Mendip Spring and putting Minehead on the map in a county competition.

Turkey Trot competitions have been played, team & individual, these prizes will be presented at the ladies Christmas Lunch.

Presentation Night was well attended good to see so many ladies there to receive their



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trophies.



The Ladies Christmas Lunch is being held on Saturday 12th December & this will be my last official duty as Lady Captain, I would just like to say thank you to everyone who has helped & supported me through this year I could not have done it without you. My very good wishes go to Jenny Holland who takes over as Captain on 7th January.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year. Enjoy your golf

Stephen Kaye,
Seniors Captain.



At the start of November the Seniors held their premier event on

the 1st Monday of the month, The Interclub Challenge. The total number of Senior golfers who took part were 88 from 11 clubs. The clubs represented were from as far away as Staffordshire. Our own players were Mark Ruttley, Dave Chidgey, Neville Parsons, Graham Walsh, Randle Foot, Cliff Day and Nigel Moore. There were over 100 attending an excellent dinner and presentation with excellent service provided by our lady members for which we say a very big thank you for your support. The Interclub is now in its 3rd year and this year managed to generate over £2800 over the bar takings! The winners were Ilfracombe followed by Saunton as the runners up. Once again huge thanks must go to Graham Walsh for his hard work and tireless energy is organising this event.



The Seniors played two away winter matches during the month with Taunton and Pickering and away to Enmore. Sadly despite some tough competition both matches were lost to our away hosts.

One of the great traditions of the Seniors is our Ladies Night where we invite Ladies from present and past Seniors Members. This year the Ladies Night was held on Friday 27th. It is always a pleasure to welcome our Ladies and invitees on this night and this year was no exception. Once again we thank the Ladies Section and also

joined by some male members for their excellent service on this night. It truly shows that we are a club that works and pulls

together. Finally the presentation night was once again very well attended by the Seniors Section

and our thanks go to all for an excellent evening.

We have just played the Seniors Turkey Trot which was very well attended by all. As we move into the New Year it is great to see the Seniors Section well supported and also to see many new members joining in. The Seniors section is open to all over the ages of 55. Just contact Graham Walsh (Seniors Secretary) or myself, you will be made very welcome.

A very merry Christmas and a happy golfing year to you and yours.



Graham Wright –The Warreners

The Warreners have been playing roll ups during November when the wind or rain have allowed

although we did play a rearranged match on 18th against Brean.

The weather was reasonable on that day and the Warreners won 4 - 2 which did not quite reverse the 4 1/2 - 1 1/2 loss earlier in the year at Brean However, they are a friendly bunch and we all



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enjoyed the match followed by an excellent carvery meal.

We have the Warreners Christmas Invitation on 16th December which we all look forward to and hope for good weather that is not always guaranteed at this time of year. We would like to wish all our fellow Minehead Golf Club members a wonderful Christmas and a happy golfing new year.



The Course, Graham J Wells

Because of the mild and damp weather greens have been unexpectedly caught by a fungal infection (literally overnight) notably the 4th. This has left them "patchy". Ferrrous sulphate and fungicide has been applied and the situation is under control although the greens will take time to recover to full fitness. This situation has incurred a cost which we had hoped to avoid.

Weather conditions have also caused waterlogging in front of the 4th green. Notices will be placed asking members to use the

track down to the 4th at all possible times for carts and ride on buggies and to park them at the end of the track unless infirmity prevents otherwise.

Work continues moving sand to help construct the practice facility greens and with removal of soil from the reed banks to finish off the banking alongside the 5th fairway which should become playable in springtime.

We have formally met with Lynch who have now agreed to work to obtain a permit for themselves which will allow them to bring in the 15000 cubic yards of landfill required to fulfill the existing planning approval. Subject to this being obtained landfill will recommence on the 5th tee and to the right of the 4th green in March.

Meanwhile, John A'Court has agreed to obtain a necessary extension to existing landfill approval beyond March for a further 3 years. He will also separately survey and seek further approval for use of landfill

to the left of the 3rd fairway and behind the 6th green.

Ongoing maintenance on the course has focused on controlling rough to ensure that balls can be found but played with some Todifficulty! Members may also notice that greens may have been cut to prevent recently prevalent winds from moving balls – so from time to time they may have been slower than we may wish but at least play has been manageable!

Rabbit shooting has continued, usually at night, and the return of

myxomatosis may further aid control. However, wet weather has made ferreting difficult as it makes the nets used heavy and impossible to manage. It is hoped that this latter method of control will be use to good effect in the near future.

