

LEST WE FORGET

Remembrance Sunday this weekend is even more poignant than usual.

One hundred years ago on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in a forest near the French city of Compiègne, French, British, and German leaders met and signed an armistice that officially ended the 'war to end all wars' that claimed the lives of more than 16 million people over four years.

This Sunday, we will remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice in the First World War and all other conflicts since then by observing a 2 minute silence at 11.00 am. Wherever you are and whatever you're doing at the Club, please stop when the rocket is let off to show your respects.

Sunday also sees the playing of the **Final of the Brock Cup** which commemorates Commander Frank Brock, a member of our Club, who was killed during a naval raid on the Belgian port of Zebbrugge in 1918.

As we look forward to Remembrance Sunday, let me briefly relate the story that led to the writing of one of the great war poems that inspired the adoption of the red Flanders poppy as a way of remembering those who have suffered in war, and ultimately became the symbol of remembrance that we know so well today.

During the early days of the Second Battle of Ypres a young Canadian artillery officer, Lieutenant Alexis Helmer, was killed by a German shell on 2 May, 1915. He was serving in the same Canadian artillery unit as a friend of his, the Canadian military doctor and artillery commander **Major John McCrae**. As the brigade doctor, John McCrae was asked to conduct the burial service for Alexis. It is believed that later that evening after all the emotion surrounding the funeral for his friend, McCrae began to draft a poem "**In Flanders Fields**". This is the poem...



Malden Golf Club
Remembers

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

THE CAPTAIN'S WEEK

It was another busy golfing weekend with the added attraction of our first ever Cross Country Challenge, another event specially organised to mark our 125th anniversary.

But first there was the 'warm-up' competition with the **MEN'S MONTHLY STABLEFORD** on Saturday. I had the pleasure of the company of Vernon Doyle and Chris Eccott. It was a fun round of golf. I played quite well in breezy conditions and with some testing pin positions coming in with a creditable 35 points which was good enough for 6th in Division 1. It wasn't, however, as good as Alex Martin's 39 points which on a day dominated by some of our single handicap players gave him victory by 2 points. Runner-up on a count-back was Nick Stevens just beating Darren Howes who also finished on 37 points. Division 2 was won by Stuart Gregory who scored an equally excellent 39 points. Second was Chris Stanton on 37 points and in third was Steve Downes just ahead of Matt Creely and Andy Davies who all finished with 34 points. Well played guys.

If the conditions on Saturday were a little tricky, the weather on Sunday was almost perfect for golf though it wasn't exactly golf as we know it. For those of you who didn't play, there were 8 holes that zip-zagged across the course culminating with the ninth on the putting green and through the Fairbairn Howes Windmill Arch (see the next page for details). I think everyone thoroughly enjoyed this new experience and there is now talk of repeating the challenge again next year possibly with some further tweaks to the course layout.

On Tuesday, the ladies were playing in their **MONTHLY STABLEFORD** competition. With a fine score of 37 points, the winner was Lesley Mason, 2 points ahead of Alison Trinnick who was second. In third place on 34 points was Kumi Fukuhara.

And then on Thursday, I teamed up with Carol Bilton to play in the **SURREY LADY CAPTAINS MIXED GREENSOMES** event at Royal Wimbledon. I think it would be fair to say that Carol and I didn't bring our A games with us (or even B and C) but we still managed to finish joint 4th and had an encouraging birdie on our last hole. So it wasn't all bad news. Anyway, it was a good day and it's always a pleasure visiting RWGC. My thanks to Carol for inviting me to play.

WHAT'S COMING UP?

This Sunday is the **FINAL OF THE BROCK CUP** over 36 holes. The match is between Martin Cragg and Stuart Roberts. To see sponsor David Woolmer present the prizes, and hear the match reports from referees Ray McCullagh and Paul Gachet, please join us at the **special Remembrance Sunday presentation at 6.30.**

On **Wednesday 14th November**, we have the **MEN'S MID-WEEK STABLEFORD** competition.

And the on **Thursday 15th** it's the next chapter in our annual **BEAUJOLAIS DAY** texas scramble competition. It's a great day so if you haven't already done so, please put your name down on the list in the Club Foyer or speak to organiser Nigel Gills. We'll be meeting at 9.00 am for some breakfast and pre-golf refreshments before drawing the teams out of a hat.



Finally, the various events that make-up our **CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS** are now up on various noticeboards. Please get your name down to avoid missing out. Thank you.

THE 125 CROSS COUNTRY CHALLENGE



Charlie Howes reverts to a snooker shot to finish watched by Gary Robinson and Blair Christie.



All this and Pip Davis's 60th birthday too!



Winners: Aidan Pluis, Alison Trinnick, Johnno Gordon and James Houghton (heavily disguised as Mrs Johnno Gordon)



Missed!



And runners-up Simon Bear, Paul Brewer, Andy Ness and Barry Walter



125 Committee Chair Simon Barton takes the plaudits for all his efforts this year.



The course designers pose before trying it out for the first time.



Brilliantly organised Darren!



Player Name	Handicap (Ladies + 4)	Team Handicap = total + 10
VERONICA DAVE	17+4 = 23	62/10 = 6.2
CHAS GEMS	11	
KUMI FUKUHARA	18+4 = 17	
ALISON DALGLISH	7+4 = 11	

Hole number	Hole Name	Par	Stroke Index	Score
1	The Best Wanderer	5	4	5
2	Off The rails	5	2	5
3	The Cambridge Flyover	4	3	4
4	The Malden Mashie	3	8	2
5	Zig Zag	4	1	3
6	The Downward Dog	4	5	3
7	Up, Up and Away	5	6	3
8	The End is Nigh	4	7	4
9	One-Two-Five	3	9	3
		37	Total	37
			Minus Team Handicap	6.2
			Net Total	30.8

The Cross Country scorecard