

Welcome to our first newsletter as captains. We would like to start by thanking the immediate past captains, Linda and Bruce, for the fantastic work they put in which made their years as men's and ladies' captains so successful.

Our Captains' Charity this year is Riding for the Disabled, Horsley and Bookham branch –

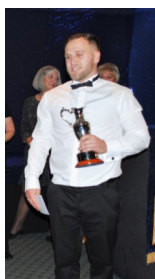
www.horsleyandbookhamrda.co.uk. The charity provides riding lessons for children and young adults with physical and learning disabilities and the work they do brings joy to many people who face enormous challenges in their lives. The charity is completely dependent on its own fund raising, is local to the club and does really valuable work. Barney, one of their Shetland ponies, even came to our drive in! He seemed to enjoy the day, and his charm was rewarded by a seemingly never-ending supply of carrots. Some thought he must have hollow legs! Please help us raise funds for this charity.



Our first fund raising event is the Captains' Charity Bridge afternoon on Friday 29 November. Please arrive at 1pm and start to play at 1.30. Afternoon tea will be served and there will be prizes for the winners. Tables of 4 are £44. Please contact the bar if you would like to book. You don't have to be an expert bridge player – just book as a team of four, play at your own pace, and enjoy the afternoon.

Don't forget to buy your season ticket to the captains' bunker on the 18th – only £20 for the whole season. You can go in the bunker as often as you like! Please pay at the bar.

Both captains are keen that there should be more mixed competitions next summer, so we have put into the diary a number of competitions, including competitions in which members will be able to play with their chosen partner, rather than be drawn with another member. More details in the new diary in December and our next newsletter.



Saturday 16 November was our Awards Presentation Evening. We had a fantastic time celebrating our winners during the term of Linda and Bruce's captaincies.

We need to continue to encourage wider participation in competitions, friendly matches and social events. The Thursday night accumulators, quiz nights and bridge nights are successful and enjoyable, and we encourage as many members as possible to take part. The next quiz night is on Thursday 12 December, run by Beth and Frank Fuller, who make the evening both good fun and interesting and we hope as many of you as possible will attend. It will be a chance to get away from the general election frenzy. The quiz nights are for teams of 6 people (who don't have to be

members), starting at 7.00pm. Why not come early and grab a bite to eat before the quiz? There will be another quiz night on Thursday 23 January.

The next bridge evening is on Thursday 5 December, organised by Linda Gillard. It is duplicate (but friendly), starting at 7.30pm, and you can order a meal in advance. The bridge evenings are held on the first Thursday of the month. Don't be shy – if you enjoy playing bridge why not come down to the club to play?

For both quiz nights and bridge evenings you will be in the clubhouse and eligible to win the accumulator.

The Seniors' Ladies' night takes place on 6 December. This is a very enjoyable social event, and we hope to see as many seniors and ladies as possible.

We would like to thank Hazel Corstin and Myril Ward for organising our captains' drive in on 6 October. They have organised the drive in for quite a number of years, and are two unsung heroes. Every year the drive in goes smoothly without any ap-

parent effort from anyone, though every captain knows that Hazel and Myril put an enormous amount of work into making sure it runs smoothly and efficiently.

Our drive in was preceded by a presentation of a cheque for £18000 to BRIGHT, Linda and Bruce's charity for their year. It was a fantastic achievement. Well done to all members who so generously contributed throughout the year.

This year the drive in was won by the Captains & immediate past Captains who donated their prize money to the captains' charity, Horsley and Bookham RDA.



Ladies Section:

I have spent four enjoyable years on the ladies' committee, and now I am looking forward to my year as captain, and to working with my vice-captain Gillian Allan. We have a strong committee, with very good experience, and which is representative of all abilities within the ladies' section. The section continues to be successful both in a golfing and in a social sense. It is great to see so many ladies staying in the clubhouse after their rounds on a Tuesday – long may it continue.

We have started our campaign for the Pearson Trophy. The first home match against Dulwich and Sydenham was a closely contested match which Clandon narrowly lost. Our team then went to Woking and beat them 4-3 on their very wet course. Our remaining matches are away against Dulwich & Sydenham and home to Woking. The squad is strong, and no doubt will do their very best to win both matches.

The Champion of Champions competition was contested by 29 players, all of whom had been winners during the previous 12 months. It was again won by Anne Davies who played an excellent round in terrible weather conditions.

We have two prizes for the biggest reduction in handicap over the season – one for the biggest percentage reduction and one for the biggest numerical reduction. One person cannot win both prizes. It was good to see Julia Woodley, a fairly new member, winning the Thunhurst trophy this year for the biggest numerical reduction in handicap – from 49 to 35. And Oksana Ivanyk won the Barton trophy which is for the biggest percentage handicap reduction – from 33 to 24. Congratulations to both of them.

We have been delighted to welcome some new lady members over the past 3 months and hope they feel they are settling well into the club. Some have come with lots of golf experience, others with less. I hope they feel that our claim to be Surrey's friendliest golf club is justified.



Men's Section:

Like Julie, I have enjoyed my time on the men's committee, and I am looking forward to my year as Men's captain. Nic Wadey is my Vice Captain for the year and we are very grateful for the support given by our committee with their broad experience. The committee's individual photographs are displayed in the club lobby along with their role undertaken.

Our year has got off to a great start with our drive in, and I would like to add my thanks to Julie's for the wonderful work put in by Hazel and Myril in organising our drive in.

Very many congratulations to Ed Keep on being runner up in the 2019 Surrey Masters competition held at Walton Heath on 19 October. Ed was beaten by David Cobden (Hindhead) who had a round of 64! Incidentally, the Surrey Order of merit was won by Jacob Aaholm who had won the CRGC Open in July – congratulations to Jacob.

The Memorial Medal played on 16 September was won by Nino Pompili, with a net 70.

The Newcomers' Cup was won by Joss Mitchison.

The Champions Day Shield was won by Mark Ashton.

The summer knock outs have now been completed:

The singles matchplay championship was won by Simon Daniel;

The foursomes championship was won by Jono Hobson and Colin McKay;

The four ball championship was won by Ed Keep and Doug Graham.

Well done to all.

The men had a clear victory in the Quaich this year. This keenly contested match is being moved to May next year, when the ladies hope to have better luck.

We are continuing the new events introduced over the last year or so, for example the non-qualifying events in January and February. There will still be one weekend qualifier each month for those members who need to play qualifiers to keep their "c" handicap.

A reminder that the midweek Christmas Cheer competition is on 11 December, sign up online.

We have decided to hold the finals of the men's summer knock outs on a "Finals Day", and to have a Ryder Cup style Captains v Vice Captains team competition. The seniors are deliberating whether to have the finals of their knock outs on the same day.

Next summer we will be playing some different clubs in our friendly matches. More details in a subsequent newsletter.

New members are very important to the club, and we will continue to work as hard as we can to see that new members are made to feel welcome, and to make their introduction to the club as smooth as possible.



Men's Section continued:

We would like to pay tribute to Peter Seaward, who retired as chairman of the seniors this year. Peter did a superb job as chairman of the seniors, both for the seniors and for the club, and we are all very grateful to him. Barry Warren has taken over as chairman of the seniors, and we wish him well in that role.

The three counties seniors winter league is underway, and the Clandon Regis team is performing creditably. It is early in the campaign – more news in our next newsletter.

Mixed Competitions:



Apart from the drive in, the only mixed competition since the last captains' newsletter has been the Conservation Trophy, organised by Susan and Roger Lindsay. The funds generated from the competition are used to improve the environment and appearance of our course. For example, most of the trees planted since the course opened have been paid for by funds from this competition. You may silently curse when your ball goes into the trees on the right of the 9th; just thank Roger for planting them there! Seriously, without this work our course would not look as good, and would not present the same level of difficulty as it does. This year the trophy was won by John & Myril Ward with a net 71. It is a greensomes competition. If you happen to bump into John, you might want to ask him how many of his tee shots were used for their second shot....

Handicaps:

The new handicapping system will come into effect in November 2020, by which time all, or nearly all, golf courses in the UK will have been rated under the new system. Surrey Golf expects to have all Surrey courses rated well before November 2020. The new system is known as the World Handicapping System ("WHS"). To change to the new system in November 2020 all players' current handicaps will be reprocessed using WHS principles. The calculation will identify the best 8 of the last 20 qualifying scores, and then apply some technical adjustments to arrive at a "handicap index" for each player. A computer will do all this. The consequence of these transitional arrangements is that the last 20 rounds that you play before November 2020 will be used to calculate your new "handicap index" in November 2020. We therefore urge you all to play as many qualifiers as you can before November 2020 so that your new "handicap index" accurately reflects your playing ability when the new system comes into effect.

Greens:

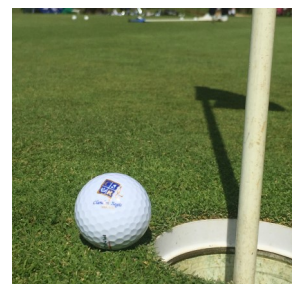
The course from the blue tees has now been officially measured at 4645 yards. A request has been made to Surrey Golf for the course from the blue tees to be rated for both men and ladies. The rating will set the standard scratch score, and also the slope rating for the new handicapping system.

Confirmation of the slope rating for all our tees is expected in the near future. Our course was rated some time ago.

The work on the bunker on the right hand side of the 12th fairway has been completed.

It is good golf etiquette at any time of year NOT to pull your trolley between the greens and bunkers, or over the Tees. In the current wet conditions this is more important than ever. Please help us to protect our course by staying well clear of these areas with your trolleys.

We are very lucky at our club. We do not have temporary greens or temporary tees, nor do we have to play off bits of plastic matting for our fairway shots. This is not an accident. A lot of work has been done in the past to improve the drainage of the course, and the greenkeeping staff continue to work hard to keep the course in the best possible condition. However, members (and guests) have a very important part to play in looking after the course. We would particularly like to stress the need to be very careful when taking your ball out of the hole if you have left the flagstick in when putting. Please DO NOT use the flagstick to pull the ball out of the hole. This is damaging the edges of the holes, and is unnecessary. Please take care.



As this is our first newsletter we would welcome feedback –
please email John Ward at lawyerward@btinternet.com, or speak to John or one of us.

Julie Risley

Richard Harris