

PITCH UP - WE ARE OPEN!



WEDNESDAY 13th May 2020. A day to remember! The course opened and it was the start of the easing of lock-down for us golfers. The course was in magnificent condition. After one of the wettest winters on record and then no play due to Covid-19, it was great to play and enjoy golf again.

Welcome all new joiners to the club this year, both playing and social members. We pride ourselves on being a friendly club and hope your experience concurs with this sentiment.

I must congratulate the green staff for keeping the course in good condition despite a reduction in manpower. Graham Careford asked for volunteers to assist with various tasks and members readily responded. Volunteers have also done a terrific job on the flower beds which adds to the beauty of the course.

I regret to inform you that Martyn Lainchbury, the club's Treasurer, has decided to step down and not offer himself for re-election at this year's AGM. Martyn has been Treasurer for six years and given countless hours to the club. He brought order to the accounts to provide accurate financial information to the management committee. He has kept a close watch on spending and the club owes him an enormous gratitude for all the time he has given for our benefit. We urgently need a member with accounts experience to volunteer to be the next Treasurer and work with Martyn before he retires. I'm sure most of you welcomed

the opening of the bar and hope many of you will support it. Luckily, the weather has been reasonably dry and warm so members have been able to enjoy a drink in the ample outdoor seating areas. I'm glad to say most members are keeping to social distancing. Currently, inside space is limited to 30 in the bar and 16 in the George Low. In the first fortnight of opening, the club used Soho Gourmet Catering as a stop-gap.

Roy returns

I am delighted that Roy is now back working and again we need members to support him. The club can only afford to open the bar and serve food at hours when it is profitable to do so. The club has to be run as a business and decisions are made on this basis. Sadly, we've had to say goodbye to some familiar faces and are running the club under tight financial control.

The club has been fortunate in the number of golfers joining the club. I very much hope that they are enjoying the club's offerings and will rejoin next year but, being realistic, I know some will not. Initially, only members could play golf here, then we opened it to

members' guests and now we are taking green fees. If the latter provide in excess of the budgeted figures and bar takings equally surpass anticipated revenue, it may be possible for the planned improvements to the practice area to go ahead.

New facilities at 13th

The old Rickett's hut is being replaced with a larger refreshment area and two toilet facilities. All this is being done on voluntary contributions and I must thank Guy Saunders for all his efforts in the fundraising. He has received offers of help with groundworks, plumbing, electrical work, etc so my thanks to all of them.

Members giving money, time, skills for the benefit of all is one of the great things about our club. Danny Hill, the club's head professional, performed an outstanding feat of endurance when he played 125 holes in a day to raise money for the Captain's charity. Nicola Bennett, our second professional, is doing a great job with junior and aspiring women players. Her lessons bring fun to learning a new skill. I would like to thank all the staff for their contribution to our enjoyment.

Planning for the future is difficult with the threat of Covid-19 and the financial position of the country. We know we will prosper but must be prudent at this time. I encourage you all to use the bar, drink and eat, and thus support this great club of ours.

BILLIE NEWLAND, CHAIRMAN

EGM

ASMALL number of members attended the important Extraordinary General Meeting, held on 19 February 2020, called to allow all members to approve or reject the proposal to change the existing club into an incorporated body limited by guarantee from April 1st this year.

Mrs Billie Newland, as Chair of the Management Committee opened the meeting and restated the resolution which was also displayed on the screen above her, showing the resolution in full, including the key point that the liability of the Voting Members and Officers is limited to £1.

When she called for a vote, every member present voted that the proposition be accepted and there were no abstentions or votes against the proposal. Therefore the club's new status will come into effect and from the time it does, we shall be officially named Bush Hill Park Golf Club 1895 Limited. Due to circumstances at the time of publication the resolution has not been put into place.

FRANK FARMER



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2020 ANNUAL DINNER



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course
meal and
a large
amount of
wine
consumed*



RECENTLY we attended the Annual Dinner Dance at the club. It was quite well supported although some members self-isolated and failed to show. Simon Greenfield, our chef, presented us with a superb three-course meal which was appreciated by all concerned. Vast amounts of wine were consumed, which helped to make it a very enjoyable evening! Entertainment was provided by Eddie 'The Voice' Cullen, with renditions of Rat Pack specialities, Elvis and Neil Diamond, which were well received. Past-captain David Dickinson was invited to be guest speaker on the

subject of our 125th Anniversary. We thought it was to be a history lesson, but turned out to be quite a humorous tale of David's early life at the club. On the back of his research on the early days of the club, he has written a book about the clubs history, which can be purchased from the office, or from the bar staff, with the profits going to our Charities. Davina Farmer has been decorating the dining tables at Club dinners for quite a time, but in March her work was duly appreciated when a collection was organised and she was presented with £50 for her efforts. Davina says a big 'thank you' to everyone who contributed.



Everyone is enjoying the evening.

... and some more words from our Captains

Seeing us into the New Year we had a wonderful Dinner Dance with Vibes Disco. It was well supported and I'm sure everyone enjoyed themselves. It went on well into January 1st. Then it started raining and has hardly stopped for three months, putting paid to most people's games of golf. Four ball draws have been cancelled as well as Captain and Pro challenges, although we

have managed four matches with a 75% success rate. There was also some disruption to the Winter League, which was won by David Knott. For the first time in five years we provided a printed diary that would assist the older generation, who are not proficient on the internet, with their forward planning. We've had a number of successful

social events including the Mauritian night, Italian night and Valentines night with a guest appearance by Ted Rees and his Trio. At the end of 2019 Bush Hill Park Golf Club was voted the 5th best golf club in Middlesex and also Golf Club of the Year in the Club Mirror awards. As we are all aware this year is our 125th anniversary with some

exciting events culminating in our Festival Week in June, with a Pro-am and a Gala Dinner. Unfortunately we have now encountered Coronavirus which has affected some of our planned events. The management will try to keep the club open as long as possible. So the message is

'Keep calm and carry on'

SUE AND GRAHAM

General Manager's Report

Coping in the Covid-19 crisis *We all pulled together*



IN the January Bush Telegraph the headline for my piece was 'Our 2020 Vision' although at that time we were clearly not expecting a global pandemic!

2020 is our 125th Anniversary and it will forever be remembered for very different reasons than we had originally planned. The Club was coming out of some difficult times and this year looked set to be a turnaround year. Martyn has been keeping very tight control of the Club's finances as a result of the pandemic and it is clear that we are now in some very choppy waters.

Doom and gloom aside and being 'ever the optimist' the way the Club pulled together before, during and after the lock-down, is a testament to the community spirit at Bush Hill Park.

Over 80% of our members renewed before and during the lock-down in support of the Club, which gave us a significant lifeline. The grocery parcels that we started as the crazy times of food shortages and long shopping queues were very well received and we issued over 100 parcels before the Club was closed. Many members also hand-delivered these to members who were self-isolating, which again shows the strong Club community spirit. During the lock-down there was an eeriness in the Clubhouse and seeing the course in all its glory during some fine weather in early April was an injustice, especially given the weather conditions we endured this past winter.

Communication

Our depleted team of three greenkeepers worked tirelessly on the course getting things ready for when we finally re-opened and we tried to ensure there were regular updates available through our Facebook community forum and via other forms of communication to keep our members informed and connected.

We donated many perishable food items to a homeless charity which was a suggestion by one of our members via the Community forum. Danny's tuition videos were fun and his ice bucket challenge kept the Club spirit going. Photos were shared, Pilates continued via Zoom, jokes, support for the NHS etc. all still kept a 'virtual' Clubhouse for our members.

Members walking the grounds

We extended the option for members to walk the grounds during the lock-down period, which also provided a safe haven and many members took advantage of this for exercise. The Government furlough scheme enabled us to scale back our staffing costs during the lock-down and we are now reviewing our options to gradually bring staff back wherever possible. The reduction in staffing resources has required more volunteer support from our members and we have a pool of volunteers assisting with general green-keeping, tending flowerbeds, marshalling, assisting with administration of competitions and handicaps. Again this is a testament to the way the Club has responded in this

crisis.

As easing started we were working hard to ensure that we could open safely and, despite various last minute Government changes and uncertainties, we opened the course with Graham and Sue Evans hitting the first tee shot on Wednesday 13th May. Our social media posts were picked up by the Daily Mail and we appeared live on the BBC lunchtime news and also on the evening BBC News, which included my 15 seconds of fame! Since then over 90 new members have joined us and, whilst we did lose a number of members, our subscription income is currently £40K above last year's level. Hopefully, this will continue to grow, however it does not address the fact that we have lost other vital revenue streams and we are in effect now starting from scratch.

Socialising

With the continued easing came the much-awaited re-opening of the Clubhouse on 4th July. We can now start to socialise with many of our old friends and also meet our new members as we look to give them a more normal Bush Hill Park welcome.

On Thursday 16th July we held a new members evening with over 50 new members' attending for drinks on the terrace. Welcome to all our new members, and I hope that you will enjoy a long and happy membership at Bush Hill



Non-return of cards and effect on your handicap

SINCE the resumption of Club competition's back in June, it has come to our attention that approximately 10% of competitors are NOT submitting their scores having completed their competition rounds. With the introduction of the World Handicap System, it is vitally important from the handicap perspective of both the Player and the Club, that every score is completed and returned into the IG system, regardless of how good or bad the score may be. With a system based on averages there is potential material impact on your handicap and you are also affecting your fellow competitors' handicaps through the calculation of the standard scratch score of the day.

By not submitting your scores, each hole will be recorded as a net double bogey i.e. 36 over par plus your handicap so a 10 handicap player will be deemed to have scored 116. Even if certain holes are not actually completed in a Strokeplay (medal) competition, please ensure you submit your card by recording and submitting all the holes that you do complete. If you are injured or have to retire due to exceptional circumstances, please advise us so we can record your round appropriately. If you are having trouble submitting your card through technical or any other reasons please let us know, and we will try and assist. Many thanks

JON COPLEY

Park. If there is anything that I can do to assist with your integration into Club life, then please do not hesitate to contact me. There are some tough decisions still to take and we are adapting our plans to best ensure the Club's survival. You can assist and do your bit by, bringing guests, introducing new members and using the Club's bar and catering facilities. Hopefully, as the imposed restrictions continue to ease, we can start to focus on more positive golf and social activities at the Club.

STEWART JUDD,
GENERAL MANAGER



These two plaques representing golfing societies within the club, namely Bushguardsers and Bush Nationals, were originally situated above the main bar. They have now been repositioned, together with a descriptive plate, adjacent to the various photos depicting the past history of the club.

Wedges talk



THIS year we have two exciting new products from Titleist and Cobra, with the new Titleist SM8 they have moved the center of gravity forward from the face of the club to give more stability and directional control over their previous models. Cobra have also launched an all new wedge range called MIM, these wedges are produced using a metal injection moulding process to deliver the softest and most precise wedges golf has ever seen. Here are some of the most frequently asked questions about wedges and why it is important to be fit for the correct lofts.

How many wedges do I need ?

As a general rule the longer hitters will carry more wedges in their bag, whereas shorter hitters will opt for less wedges to have more room for hybrids and woods in their set. We would always suggest a minimum of 3 wedges (PW, GW and SW) with 4-6 degrees gap between each.

Why do I need more than one wedge?

To understand why wedges are important you need to know a few things about your full set of irons. Firstly each one of your irons has 3 to 4 degrees gap between them, the PW in most sets is 46 degrees whereas the SW has 56 degrees!! That's a gap of 10 degrees between

two of the most important scoring clubs in the bag. To put it another way we have the same gap that we would see between your 6 iron and 9 iron - but you wouldn't dream of taking your 7 and 8 irons out of the bag.

Should I be fitted for my wedges?

Absolutely yes. If you want to find consistent distances you need to make sure the bounce, grind and lofts of your wedges are all working with your swing characteristics. Not to mention all the benefits associated with custom fitting for irons will also apply to the wedges.

Why are there so many different bounce and grind options?

Each wedge is engineered to suit a different swing type, player style, or playing condition. If a player likes to open the club face while playing a bunker shot there is a grind and bounce to help. If you play most of your golf on hard links style courses, there is a grind and bounce to suit this player too. Even if they want the same loft the grind and bounce will allow them to produce a consistent shot for the conditions and style they use.

How often should you change your wedges ?

The official recommendation on this is every 75 rounds, but this is unrealistic for recreational golfers. Our advice would be to replace your bunker wedge every season, and your GW/LW wedges every other year. Wedges wear differently based on the course conditions and the soil content. Coastal courses with high levels of sand in the soil will increase the face wear of your wedges compared to inland courses

The best way to test if your wedges are helping or hindering your game is to have a gapping session. During this session we can evaluate your wedges for loft and gap suitability for your game. Each session lasts 30 minutes and will give you a comprehensive list of yardages for each of your wedges for both full and three quarter swings. With this data you can confidently attack the pins and get your short game in touch for the upcoming season. Gapping sessions costs £35 and can be booked through the club's website, or via the Professional Shop.

DANNY HILL

Christian Pitsillades



as a Professional Player and prior to the COVID-19 situation he planned to play in numerous Jamega and TP Tour events as well as attending the PGA Euro Pro Q School. His aim is to work towards gaining access to The Challenge Tour and ultimately achieve his goal to become a European Tour player.

We had an arrangement with Christian for the Club to support him to achieve his golfing dream and in exchange for use of our facilities he would represent Bush Hill Park at the numerous tournaments, as well as supporting the Club by entering a team in the Pro-Am and bringing a golf day to the club where he aims to raise funds to assist with his tournament entry fees.

These arrangements changed once the lock-down occurred and tournament golf ceased, however during the opening period he managed to secure another sponsor from one of our members who has paid his membership fees and is also supporting Christian through further sponsorship with Castellani Alu UK Ltd. I hope that you will be able to offer Christian your support and will follow his progress as tournament golf re-starts.

SOME of you may know Christian Pitsillades who has had strong links with Bush Hill Park having been junior member when he took up the game, representing the Club in the Tigers & Scratch Team and having worked behind the bar to help support his golfing aspirations. Christian is now pursuing a career



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125th celebrations

REGRETTABLY, our grand plans to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the Club with a festival golf week in June were impacted, as were so many other facets of our life, by the Covid-19 crisis. Fortunately life has returned to some normality and we are able to enjoy the pleasure of playing golf and meeting friends again.

Whilst we cannot re-create the entire golfing week as planned we have been able to put together a scaled down celebratory week of golf. This will take place in the week commencing 17th August with the following programme of golf:

Monday 17th - Committee Cup

Wednesday 19th - Captain's Day for the Ladies

Thursday 20th - Charity Am-Am

Friday 21st - Middlesex Golf Union Mixed Open

Saturday 22nd - Captain's Day

The Charity Am-Am on the 20th August is open to all members and guests. The event is a stableford four person team, best two scores to count. The entry is £40 per person - Soho Catering will be on hand to provide coffee / tea and bacon rolls prior to golf and a one-course meal post golf. There will be some modest prizes for the first three teams together with nearest the pins - all the proceeds are in support of the Captain's charity, the British Heart Foundation and we hope, with your support, to raise a four figure sum.

Please support your Captain and the charity by entering a team - tee times will be allocated nearer the date and depending on numbers it may be a shotgun or a rolling start. Entry details can be found on the Club web site.

If you would like to know more about the history of our wonderful Club there is very informative and interesting booklet, published to coincide with our 125th Anniversary, "A History of Bush Hill Park Golf Club" written by long-standing member and Past Captain, David Dickinson.

Copies are available from the Club office at a cost of £5.

'The cream always rises' 125th Celebration Golf Event

SUNDAY March 15th marked the culmination of exactly 125 years since Mrs. Aveling struck the first drive at the opening of the Club. To celebrate this significant event in the Club's history 67 stalwart golfers participated in a team event organised by Len Palmer. Prizes were awarded to Cela Selley for nearest the pin at the 13th and Varnavas Cristofi at the 16th. The overall team prize

(best two of four) was won by a team comprising John Guiney and our three new members who have joined us from Royal Epping Forest GC: Dave Hall, Rob Collet and Ray Kelly. With handicaps ranging from four to ten it was proof that 'the cream always rises' as these guys returned a magnificent score of 87, 15 better. Well done guys and welcome to Bush Hill Park.

LEN PALMER

Thanks to members old and new



AS the Management Committee member responsible for Marketing and Membership, on behalf of the club I would like to thank all those members who supported the club during these difficult times, by renewing their membership at a time when no-one knew when we would be open. Your support has enabled the club to continue and has been very much appreciated.

I would also like to extend a warm

Treasurer's Report

Finance hit by Pandemic Loan agreed by Limited Company



THESE have indeed been financially challenging times. In recent years the Committee had embarked on an aggressive Five Year Plan to reinvigorate the Club through a spending programme on both the course and the clubhouse, plus a step-change decision to bring catering in-house. By December 2019 it was our belief that with a significant upturn in membership we had turned the corner.

Predicted loss

Alas this was not to be. The Pandemic has completely changed the social and financial outlook for us and probably the whole world. My two challenges were to complete the accounts for 2019/20 for audit and the second to provide a financial plan for 2020/21. The figures shown for 2019/20 are those provided for the auditors. These figures have been audited but not yet finalised. With a significant loss predicted for 2019/20 it was necessary to obtain financial help from the Limited Company. This was agreed by writing-off existing long-term loans of £60k, plus receiving a cash injection of £50k. It was also necessary to take a different view

on certain provisions made regarding the Clubhouse. It was important to show a balance sheet with positive net assets going forward and this I believe has been achieved, subject to audit.

Challenges remain

The second part of the challenge was to provide a financial template to steer the club through the coming months. This has been helped by a significant increase in membership – income in the first three months up to £440,000 compared to last year's figure of £400,000 – however this has been hindered by cash flow shortfall brought forward from last year, plus the decimation of our drink, catering, events and green fee income. Effectively the Club is now in a business start-up situation. I have posted the results for the first three months of 2020/21 and these are acceptable, considering this occurred under lock-down where we had the overheads of course, the clubhouse and administration with the only income being subscriptions. Going forward we will bring back staff as we can afford it, others remaining on furlough where possible and expedient. We are welcoming again Guest and Green fees which is important for cash inflow. Bar and catering will be our biggest challenge. Offering a service to members with increased costs, while observing social distancing and making a profit, will test our management skills and require a degree of understanding and patience from the members. My belief is we shall have to be cautious and make every penny pay. We cannot afford to spend money we do not have.

MARTYN LAINCBURY, TREASURER

welcome to all those new members who have joined this year. 2020 has been a record year for new members joining. What has also been very rewarding has been the spread of new members joining across the age spectrum from the very youngest of our Juniors, to our younger age playing categories to our more mature members. It is also great to see a thriving Women's Affiliate programme. I would like to say a special thank you to Nicola for all her excellent work with the Juniors and the Affiliates.

I know her coaching is well received and much appreciated. Under the government guidelines it very difficult for us to give our new members full social scene experience, which we know is one of the reasons we enjoy the club so much. We are running a number of initiatives to help integrate our new members into the club. The most important role we can all play is as we always do, to make our new members feel welcome and to help in any way we can.

NICK BALNAVE

Thatched lodge long gone

Historic cottage guarded gate

ALMOST the last tangible reminder of a bygone age was the Gate Lodge which stood, sentinel like, at the entrance, where the men's 14th tee now stands. At one time we owned three such lodges which we had inherited when we bought the freehold in 1921, all of which afforded the club an income for forty years or more. Warren Lodge was to be found to the left of the 1st hole on the boundary of our property and was demolished sometime in the late 1960s. Chase Lodge was situated on the land where our 8th tee is now. The last tenant died in 1964 and when the building was subject to an arson attack in June 1965 it was decided to demolish and build a bungalow.

Ladies' clubhouse

Planning permission was granted with the understanding that occupancy would be restricted to club employees. The new building was sited further back, allowing an extension to the 8th tee, and was completed by February 1967. Gate Lodge, or Golf Lodge as it was also called, was, in its day, a beautiful picture book cottage with a lovely thatched roof [Fig 1]. The building dated back to the 1700s and had been added to over the centuries. Following the move to Old Park in 1912, Golf Lodge was used as a clubhouse for the ladies, until everyone moved into the mansion, after which time the cottage was rented out. By 1971, though, the cottage was vacant and 'fast becoming derelict'. The Company felt the best solution would be to pull the cottage down and erect a new building, which

could then be rented out or sold, so planning permission was sought.

History in ashes

The Council, however, had other ideas. They believed it should be restored and declared it, 'a building of special architectural and historical interest'. Indeed it was one of Enfield's last thatched buildings. The Club appealed and at a public enquiry held on 9th October 1973 the Council upheld the appeal. However, the Minister for the Environment thought otherwise and ruled that the building must be restored. Then followed several years in which attempts were made to sell the property which, unsurprisingly, attracted no interest. All this time the cottage became more and more derelict and to make matters worse, the Council wrote to the club informing us of concerns being expressed by local historical societies regarding the building's continuing deterioration [Fig 2]. In May of 1976 the Company applied for improvement grants, only to be turned down because of the, 'present financial position' of the Council. The Board would now be solely responsible for the maintenance and refurbishment of the property and so vowed to 'dispose of the site as soon as possible'. Mysteriously, and some might say timely, one evening in early July of 1976 the lodge, which had stood guard at the entrance to the club for more than 55 years, was burnt to the ground [Fig 3]. The final vestige of a previous time had gone.

DAVID DICKINSON



Figure 1: The golf Lodge



Figure 2: The golf Lodge circa 1925



Figure 3: The golf Lodge circa 1976



A History of Bush Hill Park Golf Club



David Dickinson has compiled this book from individual articles appearing in the Bush Telegraph regularly over recent years.

David said 'he was enthused to investigate and gained access to the vault, a claustrophobic cell situated in the men's locker room; the vault is protected by a heavy iron door, some six or seven inches thick and would not look out of place guarding the crown jewels. Inside I discovered a treasure trove of documents, books, trophies and pictures, and I have to admit to spending many happy hours sifting through this wealth of information. Eventually I found a number of dusty old minute books dating from 1908. Now I was hooked and so began the research that has occupied countless hours over the past six years.'

Copies are available from the office or bar staff at a small cost of just £5 with the money going to our Club's charities.

Danny greeted dawn chorus at 4.30 sharp

... and raised over £5,000 for British Heart Foundation



'The weary golfer plods his weary way!'

BACK in 2019 after the captain Ray and I finished our 72 holes for McMillan, the discussion turned to what's next? This caused me to express an ambitious task to play 125 holes in celebration of the 125th Anniversary of our golf club. The facial expressions from Ray should have been enough to cause me to retract my idea, but unfortunately that isn't in my nature.

Fast forward 12 months and the day had finally arrived. Standing on the second tee (my starting hole for

the day) at 4.30am I felt prepared and excited to take on the task. With support from my dad and our current Vice-Captain Iain, I set a quick pace for the first 17 holes in one hour 34 minutes.

Round two

The second round was equally quick in 1 hour 40 minutes, and the 3rd (to make 53 holes) set me up for a total play time of five hours and 14 minutes. Starting my 4th round of the day at 9.50am was a new experience, but with

Captain Graham now on hand to part the groups in front we ploughed through for another round under two hours. The golf to this point was consistent but with speed being the main objective, there were some sub-par putts along the way. But overall I was happy with how things were panning out. Round five and things started to get interesting as my legs started to tire. The magnitude of the task started to take its toll on my back and shoulders, but I now had 15 to 20 members walking with me to help keep the motivation and momentum.

Worrying pain

As luck would have it a few putts started to drop, and although there were a few poor shots, on the whole I had been surprised with the outcome of some shots. Rounds six and seven have merged into a blur as the pain at this point had gone from uncomfortable to worrying. This caused a lot of negative thoughts and fears, as I contemplated the thought of not

being able to finish. The final round was agony from the first shot to the last - although I am told the golf for the first six holes didn't resemble someone who had played six rounds already. Each step was painful and I wasn't able to hide the pain from anyone that was with me.

Hole 125 - cheers!

The last hole always seems long but I promise I've never taken so long to climb the fairway, but as I (and my now 25-30 followers) approached the top of the hill the clubhouse and a crowd of members were waiting to cheer and show their support. Holing the last putt on the 18th and finishing the 125th hole is a feeling I won't forget in a hurry - it was a mammoth task we had set, but an experience I wouldn't have changed.

To finish I would like to say a big 'thank you' to everyone that supported me on the day, but also to everyone that donated and helped us raise over £5,000 for the British Heart Foundation.

DANNY HILL

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Successes for Bush Hill Park at the Middlesex awards ceremony

... and we carried off prizes!

ON the 29th February 2020, Bush Hill Park Golf Club had two tables at the Prestige Middlesex Golf Annual Awards ceremony at the Copthorne Tara Hotel in Kensington. We were there to celebrate the achievements of various sections of Middlesex golfers. We attended the event with Middlesex President, Diana Williams.

Bush Hill Park Golf Club received an award celebrating its 125th Anniversary, having opened in 1895. The Ladies of Bush Hill Park Golf Club won the Lorna Peters Trophy, a competition played at Highgate GC between some 20 local golf clubs, with the team of Sue Coates, Lucy Bidmead and Sharon Saunders winning by five points.

Not to be left out, one of our mens' teams won the Middlesex Sixes competition, a knockout competition played throughout the summer and captained by Mark Watts. Our rising star, Jessica Brown was part of the team that won the Arlesford Cup. The awards were received by the Club Captain and the Lady Captain.



Club Captain and Lady Captain receiving the awards



Jess Brown receiving her award with Darragh Coghlan, County Secretary



Jess Brown and family enjoy the occasion



Our Captain, Lady Captain and their guests

Nicola gains P.G.A. degree



Nicola Bennett, our talented Senior Golf Professional has just passed her P.G.A Degree which includes Golf (naturally), Sports Science and Business - all through the University of Birmingham, so is now a fully qualified Professional Golfer. Congratulations Nicola!

But it doesn't stop there. She plays in the Justin Rose sponsored Ladies' Series every Thursday and in addition to that, our busy Assistant Pro has also been selected to be the American Golf model, and from August she will be modelling all the latest in women's golf clothing. Well, well. Glamour, as well as Golf now inhabits the Pro. Shop at Bush Hill Park. What ever next? FF

Club Championship

FOLLOWING the recent survey regarding the Club Scratch Championship format, I am writing to confirm that over 50% of the members that expressed a preference, were in favour of having the event revert to a 36-hole competition played over one day. The Captain's Committee has subsequently agreed that as from 2020, the event will be played as a 36-hole event played on one day. Please note that the Handicapped Club Championship event, will remain unchanged and will continue to be played over consecutive Saturdays. It will also still be possible for competitors to enter both events should they wish to do so.

On a slightly different note, we have listened to members who have made the point that on the days that the Coronation and Victory Cups are played (which are both 36-hole medal competitions), there is no alternative competition. The Captain's Committee has, therefore, agreed that the Division 2 Salver will now also take place on the day of the Coronation Cup, and the Senior Quaich will also take place on the day of the Victory Cup. Again it will be possible for members to play in both competitions (provided that they are eligible).

JON COPLEY, COMPETITIONS



Finally, some sort of 'near normality'!

WHO would have thought that all our lives, could change in in a matter of days, turning everything upside down, making us all feel afraid and vulnerable.?

Thanks to the efforts of everyone, we are finally seeing some light at the end of the tunnel, one thing this epidemic has brought us, is being more sympathetic and caring to everyone. I hope this continues as things get better. We are very fortunate to be able to play golf now, obviously following social distancing, and I want to say thank you to our Manager Stewart, his team and both Committees, who have worked endlessly trying to get the club up and running for us all.

I look forward to playing golf with you all soon.

Take care and stay safe

Mark

Rabbits

Unfortunately, all Rabbit's home and away matches have been cancelled this year, I have received a number of kind words from our opponents, and I am now sorting out 2021 dates, with regards to The Bucks Plate and The Rabbits Cup. I am looking into available dates to play both competitions and I will let you know the details, once arranged.

Mixed

Our first mixed match to be played was The Brasted Trophy, on the 5th of July. We had a good turn out with fourteen teams playing, the weather conditions were very windy, but that could not stop, Guy and Sharon Saunders winning, with a great score of 34 points. Second place on countback, went to John Guiney and Jessica Brown, with 31 points.

Our next mixed match is The Lambert Trophy, this is being held on the 6th of September with details to follow.

Well done to everyone who took part in these challenging times.

Mark and Janet

Foxes Abrey Cup and Tigers Bullivant Bowl

Just to update you on current correspondence regarding the Bullivant Bowl, Middlesex Tigers have cancelled this year and hope to start again in 2021.

With regards to the Abrey Cup, this is also being cancelled, and hoping to restart in 2021.

If anything changes regarding both of these competitions, Jon and I will contact you all.

Regards Mark and Jon

Kind Regards
Mark Stevens

Edgar Collar - some facts



MANY of you will have played in the Edgar Collar Cup but who was Edgar Collar?

Edgar died in his fifties and was Vice-Chairman of Tesco. A very strong personality, he said when made Captain, that he wished to

be everybody's friend so if the members had any complaints would they please go to the Secretary or a Committee member and not to him. It was through him, following Roy Bacon's ground work, that George Low became Club Professional from Enfield Golf Club in August 1962.

The Edgar Collar Cup was presented by Edgar's widow Doris in 1964. Open to Full and Off-peak members. A junior, with the required handicap, to play on a Saturday, may be invited by a full member to take part. The competition is a fourball knock-out over 18 holes with a 36 holes final. Entrants must have returned a minimum of four club competition cards in the twelve months prior to the closing date for entry to the competition.



Bush Nationals: Where are we now?

Sadly we have to record the passing of one of our long-serving members, Terry Watts.

We have at this time put our events on hold except for the Alliance played annually together with the Ladies. This is scheduled for Tuesday 18th August and I do have a list of

members who have expressed an interest to play. Additional information for members will follow shortly.

PETER SMITH

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