



Society of Hertfordshire Golf Captains

Captain Brian McDonald (2023-2024)

Hon Secretary Eric Diment

Issue 6 Dec 23

Christmas Faye

The end of the golfing year for the society was our traditional Christmas Fayre held on a very cold and frosty Friday at Harpenden Common. It was great to see so many members playing and a large field allowed a shotgun start which added to the atmosphere and ambience of the day.

The half way hut kept everyone's spirits up with warming drinks, soup, sausage rolls along with a little nip for the majority of 'Monkey Shoulder' in memory of the passing earlier this year of Willie Brooks a member of the club and a great stalwart of the society.

The course obviously played well as after a very sociable Christmas meal with plenty of wine and festive cheer there were some excellent scores when it came to the prize giving with 12 pairs scoring in excess of 36 points. The final 3 places were very tight with 3rd going to Steve Lee and Tim Fox from Aldwickbury Park scoring 41 points, 2nd place on count back went to Jan Cembala and Colin Hyde from Brickendon Grange on 42 points but with a back 9 of 23 points and 42 points again saw Alan Thomas and Mike Blee from East Herts taking top spot.

Well played to everyone and now we look forward to 2024, a full fixture list and first our Annual Black tie dinner on Thursday 7th March



Mike Blee & Alan Thomas



Jan Cembala & Colin Hyde



Nearest the Pin Winners



A word from your Captain

The Xmas Fayre, played at Harpenden Common, marks the end of the playing season for my Captains year. It has been a great pleasure leading our wonderful Society and I must start by thanking Eric for all his hard work and relieving me of a whole lot of pressure. None of the events would have happened without his diligence and efficiency and we should be very pleased to have him.

The highlight of the year has to be that we won both the Triangular and Four Counties matches. I understand that this is the first time we have won both in the same year and well played to all those who took part. The Triangular, against Cambridgeshire and Essex, was played at Knebworth on the very day of my Ruby wedding anniversary and so obviously I scored 40 points, the joint best score of the day. Also, Rob Leonard, Professional at Harpenden Common beat both his fellow professionals by 9 points (albeit with just 29 points!) and so he and I contributed the full winning margin and can take all the credit!!

The four counties, played at Buckingham, was won 1 point. I cannot take much of the credit for this one but two of our counting scores were the best of the day and saw us home. Next year, we go to Droitwich in Worcestershire for Gary to defend our trophy.

We have also won matches against Buckinghamshire, London and Northamptonshire. We narrowly lost to Suffolk and got a sound beating by Bedfordshire, the more embarrassing as it was on home soil at Old Fold Manor.

The Society meetings have all gone reasonably well although the turnout is disappointing. Next year we have meetings at Harpenden Common, Porters Park and it would be great to see numbers improve.

My only disappointment for the year has been that, for a variety of reasons, I was not able to play in any of the Mixed events. My thanks go to Eric and Phil Bibby in holding the fort in my absence and I know that those that participated all enjoyed the events.

The Xmas Fayre had 100 players participating at Harpenden Common where the course has stood up remarkably well given the rain of the previous month. Thanks to all who came along to make it such a successful day and congratulations to the winners.

On a personal note I, along with Phil Swan, qualified for the final of the England Golf Senior Series and I got my second ever hole in one and at least I saw this one go in!

I hope that everyone who has played for the Society this year have enjoyed the days and I look forward to welcoming everyone to Harpenden Common in April for my Captain's Day and the AGM where I shall hand the baton over to Gary Rees.



A word from the Secretary

As the calendar year draws to a close so does the season for the Past Captains and from my perspective as your Honorary Secretary its been another hard year. Since the end of the pandemic the role has become very much harder with clubs always looking to charge us extra for the golf element of the day, the inevitable rising food costs that we all experience in our lives and an aging group of players. I am delighted that we have managed to fulfil our fixtures other than those with the County Juniors but with just over 450 members my thanks go to the core of the society that have played in most if not all of the internal events and matches and delighted to see 17 new faces join the fold. The Committee has worked hard to try to move us all into the 21st century and next season will see some changes to the number of fixtures and I look forward to seeing many of you there. In the interim please look out for the January Papers

In memorandum

**It is with great sadness that I have to advise the passing of two
of our members**

Robert Landau of Aldwickbury Park

&

Tony Bailey of Letchworth

**Our thoughts and prayers are with their families at this difficult
time**

Annual Black Tie Dinner

Next years Annual Dinner will be held at
Aldwickbury Park Golf Club AL5 1AB

We look forward to seeing you on the
Thursday 7th March 2024





Men's Clothing List – 2023/24

- Bobble Hat £22
- Cap £15
- Rollneck Top £35
- Polo Shirt – Deacon – Ascot Blue £32
- Slipover - Windermere – Lambswool £53
- Slipover - Rankin – Merino £53
- Sweater – Lomond – Lambswool £55
- Gilet – Anton – Electric Blue/Black/White £60
- Windcheater – Cortina - ½ Sleeve - Electric Blue/Black/White £60
- Waterproof Jacket – Matterhorn - Electric Blue/Black/White £85
- Silk Tie £20
- Bow Tie £5
- Cufflinks £5
- Green Blazer - www.allclothing.co.uk Brook Taverner - Henley
- Blazer Badges £20 *

Women's Clothing List – 2023/24

- Bobble Hat £22
- Cap £15
- Polo Shirt – Paloma – Tahiti £32
- Polo Shirt – Sophie - Tahiti £32
- Sweater – Nina - Lambswool £55
- Sweater – Maya – Merino £55
- Sweater – Darcy – Cotton £40
- Gilet – Tania – £55
- Padded Jacket – Samara £60
- Green Blazer - Bespoke www.jackiepalmer.net
enquiries@jackiepalmer.net or “off the peg”
- Blazer Badges £20

Further information provided over the page regarding Blazers. To order any of the stock items above please contact Kaz Donald on 07867 508880 or kaz@munsterhall.com Payment required, by bank transfer, when garment is ordered. Gilets, Windcheaters & Jackets are not held in stock but can be ordered by arrangement.

The Captain, President, Secretary and
Committee would take this time to wish you
all a

Merry Christmas

and a

Happy and
Prosperous New
Year



Provisional Fixtures 2024

Thursday 7th March Annual Dinner	Aldwickbury Park AL5 1AB
Tuesday 9th April County Boys (Under 14's)	Essendon AL9 6HN
Thursday 18th April Past Captains Dinner	Harpenden Common AL5 1BL
Thursday 25th April Captains Day & AGM	Harpenden Common AL5 1BL
Sunday 5th May Herts Salver	West Herts WD3 3RL
Tuesday 7th May Inter – Club L/Officers	Moor Park WD3 1QN
Wednesday 8th May London Captain	Pinner GC HA5 3YA
Monday 20th May Buckinghamshire	Aldenham GC WD25 8NN
Thursday 30th May Mixed v Norfolk	Brickendon Grange SG13 8PD
Monday 3rd June Triangular	Brentwood GC CM14 5RJ
Monday 10th June Suffolk Captains	Royston GC SG8 5BG
Wednesday 19th June Anniversary Match v Whipsnade Park	Whipsnade Park HP4 1RH
Monday 24th June Match v Vice Captains Club	Letchworth GC SG6 3NQ
Sunday-Monday 30-1st July Mixed Away Forest or Arden	CV7 7HR
Thursday 18th July Presidents Day	Knebworth SG3 6NL
Wednesday 7th August Four Counties	Droitwich WR9 0BH
Wednesday 28th Aug Mixed Invitation Mtg	Brookman's Park AL9 7AT
Monday 9th Sept Vs Bedfordshire	Bedford & County GC MK416ET
Monday 16th Sept Vs Northamptonshire	Aldwickbury Park AL5 1AB
Monday 23rd Sept With Herts Lady Captains	Mill Green GC AL7 4TY
Wednesday 9th Oct Autumn Meeting + Crameri Cup Final	Porters Park WD7 7AZ
Wednesday 16th Oct Presidents Reception	Knebworth GC SG3 6NL
Monday 2nd Dec Xmas Fayre	West Herts GC WD3 3RL