

CAPTAINS NEWSLETTER OCT / NOV 2014

Dear all

The start to my year in office began in racing style, so I must begin by thanking all those people who have lent me their notes or offered their advice on How To Organise A Golf Event, without which my hair would have undoubtedly fallen out. This newsletter is a tad long due to so many big events – I'll try to keep ensuing notes a little shorter!

The **AGM on Saturday October 18th** saw a good turn-out of 27 ladies, as well as Glen, Karen and Ben from the Club. I received many lovely cards and messages which was tremendously encouraging at the start of my year. I introduced Spadework at Offham as my chosen charity and we kicked off the fundraising with £27 raised by selling the uneaten cakes that Gill had kindly donated – all delicious and all bought from the kitchen at Spadework.

The **Autumn Meeting on October 21st** followed three days later. I was thrilled with the show of support when all 21 ladies who had signed up turned out to play, especially since Hurricane Gonzalo was passing through, accompanied by squalls and ferocious winds. Who was the genius who, in the teeth of a gale, organised a straightest drive competition on the 10th? Er, that'll be me then. 1st Kath – nett 75, 2nd me – nett 78, front 9 – Carol, Back 9 – Jo, NP on 8th – Sue Jeffs, and Nearest the Line on the 10th – Yvonne. Despite the weather, we had a very enjoyable day, a good lunch of soup and fruit crumble, pumpkin decorations, and my first experience of prize presentation (I'll do it the correct way round next time...)

Captains' Dinner on Saturday 25th October was well attended and a good time was had by all.

Saturday 1st November - the Old Captains Putt-out, and the **New Captains Drive-in**. On a drizzly morning, the weather improved greatly with plenty of warm sunshine and the course was crammed full as 39 teams drove off to a shotgun start. The buzz in the clubhouse afterwards was brilliant. The ladies section in particular had been very generous with the raffle donations. We also had a number of excellent prizes to auction. A big thank you to every single lady who helped make this event so successful, whether you were involved in the planning stages, or turned up to man the registration desk, sell raffle tickets, pioneered Alex's new 3D 1st Hole Drive-In board etc, - whatever you did – THANK YOU. I had a wonderful day and we raised a considerable sum for our Captains' charities.

Pearsons - Chris and Kath have made a sterling job of organising these and a larger squad than last year has given them a few more team options. Results so far:

Thurs 6th Nov – North Foreland (H) – we won 4 & 3 – well done team.

Fri 7th Nov – Royal Cinque Ports (A) – we lost 7-0. A biblical deluge had turned an already tricky course into a watery bog and we were all soaked through just getting to the clubhouse for coffee. We requested a re-schedule, however their course was declared playable and they still wanted to play. Regretfully the ground conditions and very high winds defeated us.

Thurs 13th Nov – North Foreland (A) – Lovely course, very windy conditions. We lost 6-1, although several of us took our games right to the 18th, so the result did not reflect the closeness of play.

Wed 26th Nov – Chislehurst (A) – match postponed due to exceptionally wet ground conditions at Chislehurst.

Quiz Night on Saturday 15th November – organised jointly by all 3 club captains and intended to be an evening just for fun. After a slow take-up, we ended up with 82 participants in 12 teams – a big roomful - in what turned out to be a really enjoyable evening. Jeff Kyle had prepared a challenging

quiz and the sausage and mash supper went down well. There were prizes of wine for the winners and chocolates for the runners up.

Tuesday 18th November - we trialled a new format for the **Winter Festival** with the Seniors joining the Ladies for the weekday leg of this event. Meg put in a lot of work to organise the sign-up sheets, mixed draw, printed score cards and rules notes for both ladies and seniors. It was a tricky event to pull together – so a big Thank You to Meg. Although the ladies' event did not close until the Saturday ladies had completed their games, Heather Dunne and Debbie Crumpton picked up prizes in the best Mixed Team category with a team score of 71 points. Although the baked potato lunch was disappointing, the mixed event was enjoyed by all and may be repeated next year.

Saturday 22nd November saw the weekend ladies play their Winter Festival games, which enabled the ladies' competition to be closed. Overall winners were Dawn Edwards and Alice Gazet with a very creditable score of 41 points. 2nd place: Liz Caldwell and Fiona Lee with 36 (cb), and 3rd place: Lindsay Tilley and Yvonne Tucker with 36 (cb).

Coming Up:

Sat 13th December – 9 Holes & Nibbles. For those who have signed up, don't forget to wear something red!

Tues 16th December – Yellow Ball fun comp organised by Gill. Option to purchase one mulligan per person for £1. Landing in the designated Captain's Bunker will cost you £1 – all for our charity.

Sat 20th December – Club Turkey Trot – booking becomes available on 9th December – Texas scramble format.

31st December – New Year's Party organised by the Club – see notices in clubhouse for details.

Sat 10th January – Next Committee Meeting – 2.30 in the Clubhouse.

Notices:

- Chris has kindly offered to do an open Christmas card for us in December – if you would like to sign it, all donations gratefully received for Spadework.
- I have put a basket of Christmas cards, designed by the Spadework trainees, in the locker room. Due to high postage costs, I realise people send out fewer cards these days, but if you need a pack or two this year, feel free to buy these and put your money in the collection box next to the basket.
- Mixed Friendlies in 2015: You don't have to have a regular male golfing partner to be part of these friendly games. There are a number of men who would like to be part of this, so if you would too – please look out for the sign-up sheets in due course. A good number of both men and lady players will ensure a nice mix and you won't be committed to every game. At the moment we only have Sunday fixtures, but we are hoping to introduce a couple of midweek games in 2015.

Well, that's a pretty good start to the year. Congratulations to all winners in the above events.

Very best wishes,
Hilary