



BRENT VALLEY GOLF CLUB NEWSLETTER

Summer 2008

Brent Valley Golf Club (estd. 1938), Church Road, Hanwell, London W7 3BE, Tel: 020 85674230, www.bvgc.org
President: Martin Brennan; Mens Capt'n: Ray Black; Ladies Capt'n: Heather Burke; Newsletter Editor: Richard Gray



COMPETITION NEWS

THE PRESIDENT'S PRIZE

Played over two days on the weekend of September 12 and 13, the President's Prize enjoyed some excellent weather of the like we have sorely missed during the rest of the summer. The course might normally be expected to be yellow and dry at the end of the summer, but this year it was green and soft after abundant rain during the preceding weeks and months.



Brent Valley President Martin Brennan presents his prize to men's winner Don Stewart

The men's prize was won by Don Stewart with a combined score of 126. Two strokes behind him was Philip Christides and three behind was Geoff Raynor. The scratch winner was Jamie Lea with 139 (after a first round of a gross 67). The Saturday winner was Oscar Brown with 65 and the Sunday winner was Paul Shanahan with 64. The ladies winner was Mary Curtis with 142, followed closely by Kathy Maloney on 143.



Ray Cryan putting on the 18th during the President's Prize

ST PATRICKS



Oscar Brown, winner of the St Patricks

The St Patricks competition that was postponed from March 16 was played on May 18 in markedly warmer and drier conditions than back in March! Oscar Brown won the mens trophy, his second major after collecting the Captain's Prize last summer. Those lessons are really paying off, as Oscar swept to an impressive net 59 on an 11 handicap.

Rick Harvey could barely believe it when he realised his net 60 only earned him second place and prevented him from winning his second St Pats in a row. In his acceptance speech Oscar very kindly donated his sweep winnings to the Alan Moore collection. Since most of the ladies were playing in the Ealing Open, there was no ladies prize.



Student and master: Matty Carthy watches on approvingly (even though he's using two hands) as Oscar Brown putts on the 3rd on his way to St Patricks victory.

ST DAVIDS



Another rescheduled major, the St Davids, was held on June 1, having been snowed off (yes snowed off) back in early April. Having rained throughout the week and the day before the course was playing very long. Just a week before players had been struggling to keep the balls on the greens but the course this weekend favoured target golf. Those players going out early had to cope with light drizzle while the latter tee times enjoyed some sunshine.



Winner of the St Davids, MJ Murphy teeing off on the first

Like the St Patricks, the competition saw some excellent scoring, with another sub-60 score winning the first prize for the men. This came from our President in waiting, MJ Murphy with an impressive 58, three shots ahead of Richard Gray and four ahead of John Hunter. Wayne Dickenson hit an impressive two under the course par to win the scratch competition with a net 65. Scott Lea won the junior section with an excellent 64.



John "The Bishop" Graham, Frank Burke and Bill Muhvanny on the 3rd during the St Davids



Mary Curtis, winner of the ladies St Davids and President's prize, with Heather Burke captain of the ladies

THE CAPTAIN'S PRIZE

Played over 2 days on the weekend of July 5 and 6, the Captain's Prize attracted a field of 42 in the mens section and 16 in the womens. There was heavy rain in the early hours of Saturday but groups teeing off later enjoyed some sunshine and receptive greens. Players on the Sunday had to endure some at times drizzly weather and very little sunshine.

Leaders in the mens section after the first day were Steve Cannon and Ronnie Herbertson both with 61. There was controversy however when one of the leaders in the clubhouse on Saturday, with a first round of 62, Oscar Brown, was disqualified due to errors on his card.



Scott Lea putts on the third green during the Captain's Prize

The eventual winner was last year's captain Ken Curtis with a combined score for the two days of 126 (62 + 64), two strokes ahead of Ray Cryan and four ahead of Ronnie Herbertson.

THE PAT MCGLEW TROPHY

This stableford competition played on July 12 in memory of Pat McGlew was won by Frank Scanlon with 41 points, who beat two other players on the back 9, Keith Lea and James Graven.



Winner of the Captain's Prize, Ken Curtis, last year's Captain, with this year's Captain Ray Black. Stitch up!

THE CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Another competition played over 2 days at the weekend, the club championships are a scratch competition with prizes for the best overall players and for different handicap categories.

Played on the same weekend as the last two days of the Open Championship (July 18 and 19), the winds weren't quite as strong as at Royal Birkdale, but there were still some fair gusts. The standard of golf, however, was almost the match of Harrington and Norman, as Andrew Lea came home with a gross 138 (4 over the course handicap) to be the *Champion Golfer* of Brent Valley.

The winners of the other categories were:

10-16: Mick McSwiggen 129;

17-22: Alan Niel 133;

23-28: Keith Lea 140;

Juniors: Callum Weil 161;

Ladies: Cathy Maloney 161.



Callum Weil's explosive drive, on his way to winning the Junior Club Championships

PHOENIX

Annual Away Day

The Phoenix Society held its annual away day at Studley Wood near Oxford, a short ride up the M40, on June 20. The field of 44 Phoenix golfers were presented with a challenging course of 6,722 yards and four par-5 holes. It was in immaculate condition, with some electric fast greens and three or four cuts of rough around the greens and on the fairways. The course was recently taken over by new management and although some work is still being done on the course, the diggers fell silent whenever one of us was lining up a putt or preparing to tee off. Challenging though it was, the Brent Valley contingent scored pretty well, Jon Antunes taking the £100 first prize with 39 points, followed by Larry Weil on 36, Frank Walsh and Oscar Brown, both on 35. The team of Jamie Lea, Geoff Raynor, Steve Cannon and John Gallaher took the team prize.



Some lightning fast greens at Studley Wood

The highly enjoyable round of golf was followed by an excellent dinner in the clubhouse, which was preceded by some words of thanks for our visit from the new course owner, who generously offered to send everyone vouchers for a discounted four-ball round. Thanks for an excellent day out go to Steve Cannon, the Phoenix Captain, and also to Barrie and Sarah Barker for some sterling work in organising the day.



Jon Antunes receives first prize from Phoenix Captain, Steve Cannon at the Society's Annual Away Day.

THE JIMMY CUP

The Jimmy Cup was held on the weekend of May 11 and was won by Don Stewart with a bogey score +6, with Graham Tollit in second place with +3.

SUMMER 4 BALL

On April 27 Matty Carthy and Martin Brennan won the Summer 4 Ball Qualifier with a score of 56. In second place were Dave Flynn and John McFall, one stroke behind.



Martin Brennan (above) and Matty Carthy (below), winners of the Summer 4 Ball Qualifier.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September

Friday	19	Poker
Saturday	20	Ladies Autumn Cup
Sunday	21	Brentside v Phoenix
Friday	26	Bingo
Sunday	28	Billy Birmingham

October

Wednesday	1	Seniors Medal
Friday	3	Seniors Coffee Cup England v Ireland v Rest of the World
Saturday	4	Ladies Winter Cup Ladies Winter Cup
Sunday	5	Phoenix
Wednesday	8	Seniors Stableford
Friday	10	Seniors Coffee Cup

Saturday	11	Winter Four Ball Qualifier
Sunday	12	Winter Four Ball Qualifier
Tuesday	14	Committee Meeting
Wednesday	15	Seniors Bogey
Friday	17	Seniors Coffee Cup Cremin 1
Saturday	18	Winter Singles Qualifier Cremin 1
Sunday	19	Winter Singles Qualifier
Friday	24	Poker
Sunday	26	St Andrews
Friday	31	Bingo

November

Saturday	1	Cremin 2 Cremin 2
Sunday	2	Phoenix
Wednesday	5	Senior Medal
Saturday	8	Ladies Winter Cup Ladies Winter Cup
Sunday	9	Brentside
Tuesday	11	Committee Meeting
Wednesday	12	Seniors Stableford
Wednesday	19	Seniors Bogey
Friday	21	Poker
Friday	28	Bingo Cremin 3
Saturday	29	Ladies Winter Cup Cremin 3 Phoenix
Sunday	30	Prizegiving evening

December

Wednesday	3	Seniors Medal
Sunday	7	Christmas Lunch
Tuesday	9	Committee Meeting
Wednesday	10	Seniors Stableford
Sunday	14	Captain's Drive-In
Wednesday	17	Seniors Bogey
Sunday	21	Brentside Scramble



Don Stewart chipping onto the second green, showing the form that won him the President's Prize and the Jimmy Cup this season



SENIORS



Congratulations to Seniors Vice Captain Terry Strettle, seen here (above) collecting his Seniors Open Trophy from Club Captain Ray Black and Seniors Captain Rick Harvey. Rick was beaten on the back nine by Terry, who is hopeful that Rick will speak to him before the Captain's dinner!!



The first group out in the Seniors Open competition read like a Who's-Who of Brent Valley history with (right to left) past Captain Ken Jay, past Seniors Captain Mick Stockton, Ken Jay's father, Jack, and past President and Club Captain Dennis Burke. It's hard to believe, but between them they boast nearly 100 years of Brent Valley membership. Thanks to all who made it such a fantastic day.

The summer away day at Farnham Park on July 31 was well attended, with 42 players taking part. At last a decent day's weather made for a tremendous day out. Congratulations to Peter Duffy Junior, who was the men's winner, also to Barbara Murphy (what does such a beautiful articulate and highly capable golfer see in MJ?). Never has the old adage opposites attract proved so apposite! Barbara won the Ladies prize. A big thank you to all our guests – a special thank you to our

president and his lady, Martin and Theresa, who have always been tremendous supporters of the seniors.

The competition is really hotting up in our annual medal, stableford, bogey and order of merit competitions. They are all so close this year it will probably go down to the wire in them all!

This year has really flown, upcoming events include our final away day of the year, which will be at Ruislip on November 29. We then have our Captain's prize giving dinner which, will be in November at Ealing Golf Club.

*****STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS*****

On Wednesday September 10th we held the 2008 NAPGC Seniors National Championship Qualifier at Brent Valley Golf Club. At wonderful day was capped by Brent Valley "A" winning the team event with 103 points and incredibly the three qualifiers for the individual event were all from Brent Valley. So good luck to Rick Harvey, Peter Duffy Junior and Jack Woodham in the team event at the National Final at Trent Park on September 21. Also good luck to Rick Harvey, Peter Duffy Junior and Pat Rodriguez who qualified for the individual final. A special well done to our "prime minister" Pat Rodriguez who finished in first place!

A big thank you from all the seniors is due to Kathy Maloney who helped organise this event but who has tirelessly helped with all our seniors events throughout the year. A special hug and kiss from the Seniors Captain! (Matty Carthy got there first – see below!!)



HOLE IN ONE FLASH!!!

On June 22 Mick "Streaky" Hynes shot a hole in one on the seventh hole. Well done, Mick! Coincidentally our treasurer reports that takings at the bar were very healthy in June!



SOCIAL SCENE

Poker

The final of the poker season was held on Saturday May 17, pitting the ten most successful poker players over the year against each other. Starting at a relatively sober 7:30 in the evening, proceedings were wound up by 11 and everyone was in bed by midnight. The winner was Larry “poker-face” Weil, who bluffed, folded and checked his way to a final with Tommy Tarpey.

Thanks and congratulations to Don “Cool Croupier” Stewart for organising the season of poker evenings. They have raised £400 for the club and have provided extra income at bar and some very enjoyable evenings for many members (though not always very profitable for those of us who are new to poker!!).

A new season began Friday May 23, with Alan Niel holding his nerve to take all the chips. Rick Harvey won June’s prize, Philip Christides won July’s and Nick Weil won August’s.

Take-your-Pick

As the newsletter went to press a jackpot of over £1,000 had been built up and is waiting for a lucky winner to collect. Take-your-Pick takes place every Sunday in the clubhouse at 3:30 unless the course is closed due to bad weather.



NAME THAT GREEN!

Name the Brent Valley green pictured below.



IN MEMORIAM

Everyone at Brent Valley was deeply saddened to learn of the passing away of one of its members, Alan Moore, after a brief battle against cancer on June 23. His funeral was held on July 2. Originally from Dublin, Alan was a popular member and a great supporter of the club and will be missed by everyone. The club sends its condolences to Alan’s family.



CONTRIBUTE TO THE NEXT NEWSLETTER!

Thanks go to everyone who provided information for this newsletter, particularly Rick Harvey for the seniors news.

Also, if you don’t get down the clubhouse as much as you’d like but want to stay in touch, you can receive this newsletter by email. Send an email to news@bvgc.org and we’ll put you on the mailing list.



Thin Thin behind the bar enjoying her favourite tippie

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Club competitions: Larry Weil 020 82483590
Phoenix: Barry Barker 020 85670024
Brentside: Ken Curtis 020 84454324
Seniors: Rick Harvey 020 89983816
Ladies: Marge Griffin 020 85678548
Quiz: Larry Weil 020 82483590
Bingo: Steve Cannon 020 88106586
Poker: Don Stewart 07956 294324
Club house: 020 85674230
Pro shop (for tee times): 020 85671287