



Ladies Section

NEWSLETTER - January 2012

The month of January derives its name from Janus the Roman god of gates and doors, as well as beginnings and endings. He was depicted with two faces, looking in opposite directions, since he looked to the future and the past. At this time of the year people tend to look back on the past twelve months reviewing what has been achieved, and look forward with anticipation to the next twelve, wondering what lies ahead. 2012 certainly promises to be an exciting year what with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the Olympics and the Ryder Cup to look forward to, among numerous other things. The year has certainly got off to a good start so read on all will be revealed!

New Lockers

It is said that: "All good things come to he who waits." The lady members of Torquay Golf Club were finally rewarded for their patience on Tuesday 31st January when the Ladies' Captain, Vonnie Evans, cut a ribbon marking the official opening of the refurbished Ladies' Changing Room. The ladies had been longing for this moment over a considerable length of time but the transformation was definitely worth the wait. Now they will no longer be ashamed of visitors using the Changing Room when coming to play in matches or opens, on contrary they will be extremely keen as well as proud to show off their new surroundings. Gone is the 'hotch potch' of metal lockers and in their place 45 smart new wooden golf bag lockers, which can now accommodate the larger golf bags of today, 30 holdall lockers and 18 handbag lockers. Not only have the lockers been replaced but the lighting has been improved, the walls painted and a new carpet fitted, all in the space of just over two weeks. The consensus of opinion amongst the ladies when they arrived to play on Tuesday morning was one of delight in a job well done, which was better late than never.

Karaoke Evening

The first social event of the year was held on Saturday 7th January and took the form of a Karaoke evening which was well attended, despite being only a week after the New Year's Eve celebrations. The food for the evening was in the form of a buffet, the entertainment was 'do it yourself' so to speak. Numerous artists shrugged off their inhibitions to serenade the audience including a group of ladies who gave a rendition of "It's Raining Men." Where is Simon Cowell when you need him?

Mixed Competition

Sunday 15th January was the date of the first fixture of the year in the mixed calendar. Thirty four couples played in a greensome stableford under a blue sky in bright sunshine but a chill east wind reminded everyone that it was still winter. Though the temperature was low it did not deter some participants from achieving some high scores. The results were as follows: Division 1 (handicap

allowance 15 and under) 1st – Anna and Alan Balfour (HCA 14) 39 pts / 2nd – Muriel and Vic Mitchell (HCA 15) 39 pts / 3rd – Charlotte and Steve Dommett (HCA 12) 38 pts / 4th – Sue Wood & Tony Brinsley (HCA 12) 36 pts. Division 2 (handicap allowance 16 and above) 1st – Barbara & Roger Hele (HCA 21) 39 pts / 2nd – Rosemary Ashley & Trevor Gee (HCA 25) 39 pts / 3rd – Jacqui & Alex Rowe (HCA 20) 38 pts / Roz Wood & Trevor Sparkes (HCA 17) 37 pts.

Winter Knockout

The final of the Winter Knock-Out between Charlotte Dommett (3 Hcp) and Toni Jones (18 Hcp) was played on Thursday 19th January. Jacky Lovering refereed the match and said it was like watching two professionals playing. Even though Charlotte, who had to give Toni 15 shots, played scratch golf, this was still not good enough to beat Toni who won 2 / 1.

Burns Night

Anyone walking past Torquay Golf Club on the evening of Saturday 21st January could be forgiven for thinking they had somehow been transported to Scotland as the skirl of the bagpipes was emanating from the Clubhouse, the smell of haggis and whisky hung in the air and people clad in various items of tartan including kilts could be seen through the windows. In actual fact they were witnessing the first ever Burns Night to be held at the Club, which was extremely well attended. A piper (Scott Davidson), resplendent in his full regalia, piped in the haggis carried by Andy Clarke, who was suitably attired in a kilt. Ian Alan recited Robbie Burns' address to the haggis and Jim McConnell gave the Selkirk Grace. Alex Rowe extolled the virtues of Robbie Burns in the Immortal Memory and the Toast to the Lassies was delivered by Steve Thorne. Once everyone had partaken their fill of: Arbroath Smokie Chowder; Haggis Neeps and Tatties; Beef with Whisky, Mushroom, Cream with Spinach and Crushed Tatties or Arbroath Smokie Fishcakes with Chive Sauce; and Raspberry Cranachan all washed down by a tot of whisky, a Ceilidh Band (Worts N All) struck up which heralded the start of the dancing. This proved to be great fun with many taking to the floor and fully entering into the spirit of the occasion, despite the exertions of country dancing. Though this was the first Burns Night held at the Torquay Golf Club, judging by its success, it may not be the last.

Job Vacancy

In 2013 the post of Honorary Competition Secretary will become vacant as Val Atkinson, who will by then have served for three years on the Committee in this position, is standing down. This is an important role which involves a good degree of commitment. A replacement needs to be found in the near future allowing plenty of time for Val to be shadowed so that this person can learn the ropes in readiness for taking over from her at the AGM in 2013. Anyone interested in applying for this vacancy needs to inform Val Atkinson or Sheelagh Dean.

Knock-Out Competitions / Opens

Entry lists are now up on the notice boards for the Summer Knock-Out competitions run by the Ladies' Section, namely: the Scratch Cup, the Maconchy Cup, the Buswell Cup and the Mixed Knock-Out Cup. There have already been a fair number of entries so far, but it would be even better if there were some more – so be bold and sign up, at least one game is guaranteed and someone has to win, but it is impossible to win if one doesn't enter! However, please remember to pay the entry fee at the time of signing up, otherwise the Treasurer will be in hot pursuit. March 6th is the deadline for entry. As regards opens – the Ladies' Section is running three this year: a 3 Ball Team

Event on 17th May; a Silver & Bronze Greensome on 28th June; and a 4 Ball Team Event on 16th August, so get your entries in promptly to avoid being disappointed. The Ladies' Section is also running a Coffee Morning & Golf on 19th March and a Senior Mixed Open on 6th September. Besides all these home events there are plenty of other opens being held at various clubs around the county during the year to look forward to, should one wish to participate in them.

Weekly Competitions

Tuesday 3rd January – Stableford

Unfortunately this competition had to be cancelled due to very inclement weather conditions ie: lashing rain and a howling gale!

Tuesday 10th January – County Stableford (16 holes)

Division 1 – Toni Jones 32 / Claire Carey 30 / Chris Lester 28 / Nicole Simonetti 28

Division 2 – Ann Fisher 31 / Elizabeth Raikes 29/ Philippa Affleck 29/ Cora Macaulay 28

Division 3 – Jan Spencer 33 / Jan Reed 29 / Jacqui Rowe 27 / Libby Porter 26

Tuesday 17th January – Captain / Pro Challenge

Twenty eight pairs of ladies attempted to beat Vonnie and Martin's greensome stableford score of 30 points, but only two pairs succeeded: Nicole Simonetti and Jan Spencer scored 33 points with a handicap allowance of 24; and Sue Wood and Shirley Wilson scored 35 points with a handicap allowance of 15. The winners received a bottle of wine each and the Captain's charity was £81.00 better off, as all the entry money went to this worthy cause.

Tuesday 24th January – 4 Clubs and a Putter (Stableford / 14 holes)

Division 1 – Toni Jones 34 / Jan White 27 / Sue Wood 26 / Jacky Martin 23

Division 2 – Trudie Cross 28/Philippa Affleck 28/Shirley Wilson 27/Sue Mitchell 24

Division 3 – Jacqui Rowe 28/ Rosemary Ashley 25/ Libby Porter 23/ Jan Spencer 23

Tuesday 31st January – Stableford (14 holes)

Division 1 – Claire Carey 25 / Laura Colman 23 / Sue Wood 23 / Sheelagh Dean 22

Division 2 – Sue Arnold 27 / Shirley Wilson 26 / Trudie Cross 26 / Jenny Simnett 25

Division 3 – Jan Spencer 27 / Jacqui Rowe 25 / Val Banks 20 / Jan Reed 20

Forthcoming Events in February:

1st – Evening Bridge

2nd – Senior Ladies AGM and lunch

7th – County Stableford

8th – Evening Bridge

10th – Lady Captain's Farewell Dinner

11th – Valentine's Dinner

12th – Mixed Competition

14th – Lady Captain's Farewell

15th – Evening Bridge

18th – Race Night

20th – Ladies' AGM (19.00 hrs:)

21st – New Captain's Drive-In / Short Golf Lesson (17.00-18.30) + Curry + Drink

22nd – Evening Bridge

28th – Stableford/ Short Golf Lesson (17.00 – 18.30) + Curry + Drink

29th – Evening Bridge