

THE WAYFAIRER



The Wayfairers Golf Society Issue 13

December 2000

BLETCHINGLEY PLANS GET UPSET - BUT 27 WAYFAIRERS DON'T GET

Bletchingley Golf Course has a deservedly good reputation for remaining open when many other courses are forced to close, but the recent horrendous weather proved too much, even for Bletchingley. It closed for the first time this year just 24 hours before the Wayfairers Christmas gathering.

An early decision to cancel at least made sure that none of our members has a wasted journey, only to arrive to find no breakfast, no golf and no-one else about!

So what happens now? The decision is to re-arrange the date and carry out the previously prepared programme exactly as before. So don't unwrap those Bring & Win presents, just put them on one side until our new date **Monday 22nd January 2001**.

We hope to have everything as previously arranged - i.e. Full English Breakfast, 18 holes of golf, 2 Course Christmas Meal and coffee, followed by prize giving, Bring & Win, Team Song Contest and all the other nonsense, etc.! Should it not be possible to provide the Christmas Meal, then something equally appealing and substantial will be available. All timings for the day will be as originally planned.

Should you not be available on **Monday 22nd January** you will have your £30 refunded. Hopefully several Wayfairers who were not available for our December date, might be available in January. Please complete and send in your return slip by **Friday 5th January** at the latest.

IMPORTANT PLEASE NOTE
Bletchingley Management has requested that all those wishing to play are aware of one important fact. They have stated that because of the present saturated conditions and should the weather not improve considerably, some of the holes on the lower part of the course may be closed and only those on the higher and drier ground will be open. Some holes may be used twice in the round - making it similar in some ways to a 9 hole course.

Hopefully everyone will be sympathetic to the situation that Bletchingley, together with many other clubs, is currently experiencing and we can have a full turn out for a good fun day together on the 22nd to celebrate the New Year in traditional Wayfairer style.

P.s.By cancelling Bletchingley the Wayfairers maintained their fair weather record and didn't get wet! Here's hoping for clear skies on January 22nd.



Umbrella for Sale!



Well not for five intrepid Wayfairers, who with a day off and desperate to get away from their domestic chores and Christmas preparations, searched high and low to find a course that was open. Congratulations to the greenkeepers at Alton Golf Club which was not only open but had all main greens in play.

Despite incessant wind and rain, (This sounds like fun ! Ed.) the intrepid five trudged around the course in defiant mood, managing to drain two hip flasks en route; they claim for medicinal purposes!

AND SO TO THE RESULTS -
of this unauthorised meeting

1st **John Bateson** 27 points (another good reason for dropping his handicap)

2nd **Dennis Shelley** 26 points C/B

3rd **Jeff Hogg** 26 Points

Equal fourth **Frank Houlihan** and **Mike Owens**

Longest Drive - **Jeff Hogg**

Nearest the Pin - **Frank Houlihan**

RESULTS - CONTINUED

Birdie Cap - **You must be joking!**

Number of Balls Lost - **6**

Number of Balls Found - **Nil**

Plonker Cap - **Jeff Hogg** - forgot his waterproofs and had two air shots - attributed to alcohol abuse. (This award was closely contested by Frank Houlihan who didn't score for 4 holes before discovering he was wearing the wrong glasses).

WELCOME TO TONY WARRILOW

New member, Tony Warrilow is an experienced Holtie Veteran and plays off a 'bandit handicap' of 24. (Oh! No! not another one? Ed.) Don't worry Tony - the Wayfairers will soon reduce this! We very much hope you enjoy your association with us - and that you don't walk off with too many prizes!

SPEEDY RECOVERY STUART

One Wayfairer who has been conspicuous by his absence this year has been **Stuart Allan!** Poor old Stuart! He has been waiting for months on end for a knee operation that has been 'on-off' countless times, resulting in severe 'Golf Withdrawal symptoms'.

The good news is that Stuart has now had a complete knee replacement operation and has just come out of hospital.

We all hope the operation was a great success and wish Stuart a very speedy recovery. See you out there swinging Stuart, in 2001.

THE MILFORD SAGA

All members have been circulated already that our Spring Meeting at Milford is to be held on Friday 9th March. The only trouble is - **IT ISN'T.**

Back in October the two Johns plus Barry and Mike (Wilson) played Milford, and we were so impressed with the course, and with a bargain Society price that we managed to haggle afterwards, that we made a booking there and then for Friday 9th March.

Although we had no diaries with us, all four of us were absolutely adamant that we were free on this day. Upon returning home John B. confirmed it all in writing with Milford, and sent the usual deposit cheque. The relevant announcement of the arrangement was made to all the Wayfairers.

It was after this that John happened to be glancing through his current diary and on the very last page found a message written to himself as follows - **"Memo! Friday 9th March - Janet and I have purchased tickets for a Concert at the Fairfield Halls."**

What a plonker! When we contacted Milford they agreed wholeheartedly, but feeling sorry for us agreed to change the date to a week later - now **FRIDAY 16TH MARCH**. So everyone please note this change, and remember you are doing it to get the Treasurer off the HOOK and form an orderly queue at the bar at Bletchingley!

At the moment John B. is Number 1 nomination for the Plonker Cap at Bletchingley in January unless someone can beat that. Watch this space!

ANOTHER DIARY DATE

THURSDAY 21ST JUNE - (Longest day of daylight hours) **Reigate Heath, 2 Ronnies Pairs Trophy.** Noon gathering to start at 1p.m.

CURRENT TROPHY HOLDERS

Wayfairers Championship Trophy - Ron Harris

Wayfairers Trophy - David Gillen

Christmas Tankard & Jeff Hogg 18 and under Trophy - Peter Storey (Return for January 22nd please).

John Peake Spring Trophy - David Gillen.

Harold's 18th Hole Trophy - Mike Morgan Rowe (needed for Milford in March)

Texas Scramble Team Trophy - Nick Widdowson, Syd Tutton & Alistair Bateson.

The Two Ronnies Trophy - John McDonnell & Brian Girling

President's Team Trophy - Treasurers Team.

50 Bob Set - Ron Bailey.

Ron Harris Autumn Cup - David Gillen

Pairs Knockout Trophy - Mike Wilson & John McDonnell

All other minor awards are being held at present by the Secretary with the exception of the 'Hedgehog' currently in the safe hands of Mike Owens, but needed for Bletchingley 22nd January please.



And finally John, John & Barry take this unexpected opportunity to wish all Wayfairers and their Families and close ones our very best wishes for a very Happy Christmas and a very Healthy and Dry New Year!

May all your bogeys turn into birdies - except when playing against us!

