

THE WAYFAIRER

The Wayfairers Golf Society Issue 56

January 2007



OUR GRAND CHRISTMAS GATHERING WAS ONE TO FORGET AS THE WAYFAIRERS WEATHER TURNED WINDY AND WET!

Following two days of howling winds and horizontal slanting rain, 29 Wayfairers and 2 guests turned up at North Downs on a bleak December morning, only to discover that the Course had just been closed! Breakfast however had not been cancelled and a traditional English "fry up" soon became the order of the day.

While this was being demolished, the Secretary and Treasurer were busy in the office making arrangements for an alternative date, and it was decided with the management that this should be on Monday 19th February with the same package as before, but excluding the breakfast which our members had enjoyed already!

A programme of coffee on arrival, 18 holes and a 3 course meal was agreed, and those players who turned up for the December gathering and are available to return in February, have paid in full already.

With this being the first time in 11 years, and some 80 plus meetings, that we have had such atrocious weather on one of our chosen days, the rain continued to lash down as members made their fond farewells and headed home. Not all did this however! Eight intrepid adventurers decided to check out the Course at nearby Limpsfield Chart, and to their amazement and joy discovered that not only was it open, but in quite good condition.

(A thought for the future – perhaps this would be a more suitable Christmas venue?)

The rain eased and they all had a most enjoyable round – except for poor Brian! Being the winner (29pts bandit!), and having retired to the bar after playing, Brian bought some drinks but then calculated that he had been short changed by £1. When queried on this the barman gave Brian a £1 back, but this was quickly intercepted by John B. who promptly threw the coin in the nearby charity pot because Brian had stuffed his tee shot in the crater on the 2nd! – and a

£1 in the pot is the penalty for this misdemeanour!. At that precise moment the barman realised that Brian had miscalculated and demanded his £1 back! Poor Brian! – if only the Plonker Cap had been handy!

Meanwhile after an extremely hazardous journey back along the M25 Dennis, Damon & Jeff went out and braved the elements on their home Course – Blacknest. The professional declared them "as mad" and all of us who stayed dry and warm are in complete agreement.

Winner of this bold little trio was Dennis (also 29pts) but even he lost out eventually as he had to buy the beer!



'Just a Little Board'

*All written up and
nowhere to go. A Sad
Sight on a Day that
wasn't!*

**AND SO TO OUR VERY
UNEXPECTED NEXT
MEETING –
A RETURN TO NORTH
DOWNS ON MONDAY
19th FEBRUARY**

Everything planned for our new date will be much as before – except no breakfast, just coffee which will be available from 09.00 with the first players out at 10.00.

A 3 Course Christmas Meal with wine is to be served at 4.30pm and all prizes and activities will be in keeping with the traditional Christmas spirit, with carol singing to be made compulsory!

The main competition is for the Wayfairers Trophy plus Christmas Tankard, and there will be a Team Event, as well as a contest for Harold's Special Award on the 17th.

Also, as originally planned, there will not be a raffle but a £1 a head sweep instead, in which members attempt to draw the name of one of the top 3 players of the day.

Guests are welcome.

Return slips for North Downs are required by Tony by Friday 19th January at the latest.

**Please read the options
on the slip carefully
before completion as
these are a little
complex.**

Please note and Act.

- 1 If you were due to play on 5th December and ~~are available~~ on 19th February please indicate this and return your slip. You have nothing to pay.
2. If you couldn't make North Downs in December, but you are available in February please send a cheque for £35 with your return. (this is £5 less than the December cost because no breakfast)
3. As in December meal guests are welcome (£16.50). If you have paid for this already and still want to bring a guest please indicate this on your return slip. If you want to bring a meal guest but haven't paid already, please add £16.50 to your payment giving Tony **details regarding your guest.**
- 4 If you weren't scheduled to play at North Downs in December and can't make it in February either, please return your slip with this information.
- 5 If you paid for North Downs in December and can't play in February, Tony will reimburse you - if not done so already. (Or he will go on another cruise! Ed.)

AND NOW ON TO THE NEXT MEETING – AFTER THE NEXT ONE!

As we are now back again at North Downs in late mid-February, there will not be time to write, publish and circulate yet another copy of the Wayfairer, and then get all the necessary returns back before the subsequent gathering which is on Thursday 15th March. Because of this here are all the details now – and we need your replies **NOW PLEASE.**

THE NEXT MEETING IS AT GATTON MANOR ON THURSDAY 15th MARCH 2007

As this our first visit to this venue directions are as follows -

The Golf Club is situated off the A29 just south of Ockley. Coming down this road from the north drive through Ockley and as leaving the village look out for a small side turning to the right (Cathill Lane) which is signposted to the Golf Course. Coming up the A29 from the south this side road will appear on your left, so if you find yourself in Ockley you have missed it and have come too far.

After taking this turning into Cathill Lane follow this narrow road which bears left at a small junction further on. Continue round this left bend and don't panic as you proceed further on that somehow or other you have missed it! You haven't. It is a long drive on a narrow road and takes you right out into the sticks. For those with Sat Nav the post code is RH5 5 PQ and the web site

Coffee and bacon rolls are available from 09.00 with the first group out at 10.00. We will be playing for the John Peake Spring Cup (current holder Ken Cooper) and the Wayfairers Trophy. The Team Event will probably take the form of an Alliance Stableford and there

will be all the other usual minor competitions. The raffle will be back to normal with a multitude of amazingly original and very expensive prizes.

Note that very often it is possible to obtain snacks on the Course which you can order before playing the short par 3 10th and collect before teeing off on the 11th. Hopefully this facility will be available at this time of the year and enquiries can be made before we play.

A Two Course Meal with coffee has been booked for 4pm. but it is planned to try to change this to just a little later.

PAYMENT The total cost for coffee & bacon rolls, 18 holes, a 2 course meal plus coffee and all prizes is £33. A separate return slip for Gatton is printed on the same sheet as the North Downs return and both replies – and payments – should be sent together to reach Tony by Friday **19th January at the very latest.** Please don't give our Treasurer extra unnecessary work by not meeting this deadline. If you do it will be £2 in the pot for our chosen charity of 2007 – St. Catherine's Hospice, and John B. will be collecting! Be warned he will take it as he has put £2 in already for being late with his last payment!!

PAIRS KNOCKOUT 2007

The Annual Pairs KnockOut will start again in the Spring with details of the draw in the next Wayfairer. Would pairs who wish to compete please give John B. this information as soon as possible. If you are without a partner, but would like to play, please let John know and possibly he can pair you up with someone else in the same situation.

And come on you men! 2 years ago it was won by 2 ladies and last year by a man and a lady with their opponents in the Final being – you've guessed it! – two ladies!

PICTURES FROM RAINSOAKED NORTH DOWNS



NO GOLF
BUT it
was nice
to meet all
the others
and the
Breakfast
was
welcome!



AT THE CHRISTMAS ROLL UP – PEER WAS WITHOUT PAR!

Frost and fog was the order of the day for the annual Holtye Christmas “Roll Up”. Despite these freezing and somewhat hazardous conditions, a total of 19 enthusiastic players “rolled up”, with the final field comprised of 15 members and 4 very welcome guests.

Peer Blakeley obviously had been studying his biblical texts, as he decided to make a reality of the quotation “the first shall be last and the last shall be first”. Certainly nobody in the first group won anything, but Peer, who was last to arrive, went out in the last group and won 3 of the prizes – the Individual Trophy plus top prize, as well as both the Longest Drive and Nearest the Pin Competitions!

It was indeed a clean sweep. Well done Peer! We have said “without par” in the headline, but in fact he had plenty of them! (I know. I marked his card! Ed)

Following discussion it was decided that you could have too much of a good thing, and the Nearest the Pin prize was awarded to second placed John McD. Incidentally out of 19 players Peer & John were the only 2 to find the green with their tee shots on the short 17th.

Continued on back page

CHRISTMAS ROLL-UP RESULTS

The Prize Winners were as follows –

1st and winner of the Christmas Challenge Trophy Peer Blakeley 36 pts.

2nd Hans Zinke 31pts c/b

3rd John McDonnell 31 pts.

4th Derek Reeves 30 pts.

5th Alan Rose 29 pts. c/b

Longest Drive Peer Blakeley

Nearest the Pin John McDonnell (who in fact was second to Peer Blakeley) was given the prize in recognition of his good looks!

Following the Prize Giving John B. was thanked for organising the event, and after handshakes and seasonal farewells, all the participants went home in eager anticipation of an extremely sober and peaceful Christmas. (Not in our house! Ed)

HANDICAPS

NORTH DOWNS H/CAPS	
ALLAN	33*
ATWELL	24
BAILEY	31
BATESON	20
BLAKELEY	14
CATTERALL	16
CHURCH	19*
COOPER, K	18
ESLOR, B	18*
GIRLING	32
HARRIS, R	19
HENSHAW	34*
HISTED	18*
HITAM	21
HOGG	12
HORSFALL, B	34*
HORSFALL, J	36*
HOULIHAN	23*
KNIGHT	14
LOADER	32
LOVELOCK N	23*
MARCHBANK	21
MCDONNELL, J	20
MCDONNELL, S	7
PESKETT	23
PRITCHARD	27*
REEVES	31
RICHARDS	31
RIDDLES, A	25
RIDDLES, M	28
ROSE, A	30
ROSE, D	21
ROSNER, C	28
ROSNER, M	22*
RUSHTON	15
SHELLEY	19*
STANLEY	20
STOREY	6
WAGSTAFF	24
WARRILOW	29
WIDDOWSON	10*
WILKES	6*
WILLIAMS	17
WILSON	30*
ZINKE	14*

OTHER 2007 MEETINGS

Just a reminder that the following venues and dates have been agreed

Tuesday 8th May Holtye All day - Individual Stableford & Team Texas Scramble

Monday 18th June Foxbridge - Late a.m. start - 2 Ronnies Trophy

Monday 23rd July - Hoebridge - Committee Team Challenge for The Presidents Trophy

Tuesday 18th September - Hassocks - Pink Ball Team Day