

# THE WAYFAIRER



The Wayfairers Golf Society Issue 57

March 2007

## ON OUR BELATED CHRISTMAS DAY - "ALAN ROSE SANK HIS PUTTS AND SHOWED US THE WAY!"

February 19th – not a notable date for most people to remember but for the Wayfairers it was a day to celebrate Christmas all over again! Having turned up at North Downs in early December only to find that due to the appalling weather conditions the Course had to be closed, it was a simple matter for our Committee to rearrange the festive season.

And festive it was too, with 7 Aextra guests for the meal, expensive crackers, paper hats, party poppers, roast turkey, Christmas pud and even traditional Christmas carols!

But what about the golf?! 29 Wayfairers and 2 eager guests turned up on a rather raw dismal day, with the biggest problem initially being the fact that the whole Course was shrouded in heavy mist, with visibility of less than 100 yards. This certainly put the early starters at a disadvantage, but slowly the gloom lifted and the day remained dry but dank.

Before going out, all the participants paid £1 each to draw the name of a fellow competitor and all had high hopes that their man or lady would go out to "do the business" and finish in the top 3. In the event, the Competition organiser John McD., who never wins anything, got lucky and drew Alan Rose.

Alan proceeded to play an Aexcellent round, coming in with an unbeatable score of 37 pts. – the only one to play below handicap. A very strong feature of Alan's game was his putting as the ball was dropping from all angles and distances. It was not a late night's celebration for Alan however, as next day he was up at 6am.to fly out from Gatwick for a

Caribbean Cruise. (It sure is a hard life! Ed)

Scoring varied greatly among the competitors with a range of 27 pts. between top and bottom places. The average was 26 and quite a few Wayfairers had adjustments made prior to the Gatton Manor meeting. The up to date list printed in this issue is based on the North Downs results, followed by what then happened at Gatton.

### AND SO TO THE NORTH DOWNS RESULTS

Winner of the Christmas Tankard & Wayfairers Trophy Alan Rose 37 pts

2nd Andy Knight 36 pts

3rd Brian Girling 35 pts

4th Derek Reeves 34 pts c/b

Team Prize Barbara Horsfall, Bill Eslor, Carl Rosner & Andy Knight

Runners Up on c/b David Williams, Tom Littman (G) Robert Crompton (G) & John Bateson

Harold's Special Trophy Peer Blakeley

Nearest Pin Pint John McDonnell

Longest Drive Open Peer Blakeley

19 & Over Tankard David Rose

Birdie Cap Annie Hitam

Hedgehog Peter Rushton

Draw a Player Competition Winner John McD. who drew Alan Rose

2nd Peer Blakeley who drew Andy Knight

3rd Tom Littman (guest) who drew Brian Girling.

There was also a prize for the Wayfairer who drew the player who came in with the lowest score and details regarding this award follow in our account of –

**THE PLONKER CAP!**  
One of the best ever.

Unanimously awarded to John McD. John overheard a radio interview in which ladies from Horne Park Golf Club were giving details of a rather revealing calendar that they had made to raise money for charity. John's immediate reaction was "What a great star prize for the raffle!" and so off he shot to Horne Park.

Eventually he found himself in the bar surrounded by a bevy of ladies who all denied any knowledge of the calendar, wondered why he wanted one and generally considered him to be a "dirty old man!" (what's new!...Ed) Poor John! He left Horne Park in disgrace and wondered how he could have been so ~~mistaken~~ compromised!

Later looking through a directory of Sussex Golf Clubs he suddenly discovered that there was a Horam Park! - so similar in sound to Horne Park! Enquiry at Horam quickly determined that this was indeed the Club where the calendar had been produced, and one was immediately dispatched to our now enthusiastic Secretary. And what happened to it? Well Chris Wilkes drew the name of the Wayfairer who finished last and so now he has the calendar. He tells us it is proudly displayed in his Trophy Cabinet, with the page permanently turned to July, as this is the month that portrays the lady member with the highest handicap! **And John has never switched the radio on again!**

## **AUDREY EXCELS WITHOUT A COURSE PLANNER AND NOW IS INSTALLED AS FIRST LADY OF THE MANOR**

Gatton Manor March 2007. Our Wayfairers weather had suffered a severe blip back in December but on Spring Cup Day the record was put straight – with a vengeance! It was a gorgeous day, and so warm that halfway round our Secretary couldn't resist it, and he zipped off the lower part of his trousers to expose two extremely shiny white kneecaps to the strong rays of the sun. (And to think it was only a couple of days before this that Sue had cut him out of his sewn in winter long johns. Not a pretty sight – or smell! Ed.)

But, once again, what about the golf!? This was our first ever visit to Gatton Manor, and of the 29 members and 3 guests playing very few had experienced the beauty, variety and at times immense difficulty of this lovely Golf Course. The scoring was extremely low with the average being just 23 pts and only 3 players out of the whole field managed to finish in the 30's Club. No one played below their handicap, but that doesn't mean that the top trio will not be dealt with most severely! Despite the difficulty in scoring everyone was extremely enthusiastic about the Course, the setting, the Clubhouse, the welcome and meal – so much so that every effort will be made to return next year.

And the winner? Well Audrey proved that she was truly "of the Manor born" as her excellent score of 35 pts (12 above the average) put her two clear points in front of second placed Eddie Stanley.

Gatton has many watery pitfalls, but we wonder just how many Wayfairers would have avoided some of these had they realised before they played that afterwards our cunning charity fund raising organiser John B., was going to penalise by £1 every player who got his or her ball wet during the 18 holes. Suffice it to say that when this was announced our charity fund immediately benefited by £23! After playing, the early starters had ample opportunity to sun themselves outside on the terrace, before all went in to tackle an interesting and enjoyable Team quiz devised by the Hon. Sec. (Enjoyable! My Team scored 2 pts out of a possible 20! Mr President) There then followed a meal that really was most enjoyable, and it was agreed after the presentations what an extremely good day had been had by all.

### **AND SO TO THE GATTON RESULTS**

1st, winning the John Peake Spring Cup & Wayfairers Trophy, **Audrey Riddles** 35 pts.

2nd **Eddie Stanley** 33 pts, 3rd **Mike Church** 30 pts, 4th **Peer Blakeley** 28 pts

Team Competition Winners **Audrey, Bill, Harold & Peer** 80 pts.

Runners up **Barbara Horsfall, Mike Church, Brian Girling & guest Tom Littman**

Longest Drive Open **Peter Smith** guest

19 & Over Longest Drive **Eddie** (you will be cut!) **Stanley**

Nearest The Pin **Barbara** (keeping the ladies in the prizes) **Horsfall**

Birdie Cap **Fearless Fred** with 2 birdies (greedy blighter! Ed.)

Hedgehog Awards **Mike** (I hate Golf!) **Wilson**

Team Quiz won by Spencer, Mike R. Damon & guest Kevin Stacey with in second place on count back Annie, Tony, Ken & Peter Storey

**THE PLONKER CAP.** This went unanimously to Hans. Our dear Secretary had worked hard to arrange two friendly 4 balls at Rookwood G.C. and thought that everybody playing was available and raring to go. The day before however the Secretary received a phone call from a very apologetic Hans. "Sorry John" he said. "I'm sorry I can't make it tomorrow." "Oh dear" replied our unsuspecting Secretary fearing really bad news. "What's the problem?" Back came the reply "Well the problem is that I had forgotten it's my wife's Birthday!" And so Hans deservedly received the coveted cap!

## **AND SO TO OUR NEXT MEETING AT HOLTYE**

**TUESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> May**

This is our only 27 holes day, with a 9 hole Individual Stableford, the Annual Putting Competition and 18 hole afternoon Texas Scramble.

### **TIMING**

09.00 Coffee

09.30 First group tee off

11.30 (approx.) Putting competition before lunch

12 noon onwards a staggered light lunch. Eat as you come in.

13.00 Team Texas Scramble commences

19.15 (approx.) 2 course Evening Meal with coffee followed by Raffle & Prize Giving.

**AWARDS:** Winners of the Texas Scramble will receive our special Team Trophy (currently held by Jan Henshaw, Bill Eslor, Norman Lovelock & Nick Widdowson)

The winner of the Individual Event will receive the Wayfairers Trophy (current holder Audrey Riddles)

### **THE "BRODERICK"**

As always we will continue our annual dedication to one of our Society's founder members who was also a stalwart member of Holtye – Bill Broderick. Being Irish Bill strongly maintained that you should always play your second shot first, so we will as before include the "Broderick" in our morning round. This means that you can retake just one tee shot without penalty. Once this second shot is played it becomes the ball in play.

**THE COST** This includes coffee on arrival, 27 holes, a light lunch, evening meal and all prizes and will be £24 for Holtye members and £3 6 for non-Holtye members, which is less than last year.

**RETURNS** Please complete the enclosed availability slip and return to Tony Warrilow with your payment (if coming) by **FRIDAY 20<sup>th</sup> APRIL** at the latest – unless you want to donate £2 to our chosen charity! Should you wish/need to vary your participation in the meeting's events, then please contact Tony to obtain the amended cost.

# North Downs & Gatton Manor



**Left:**

**The two  
Wayfairer's  
Trophy Winners  
- Alan Rose  
North Downs  
&  
Audrey Riddles,  
Gatton Manor**



**Below, Damon Pritchard, (Captain of the day at North Downs) awards Andy Knight with second prize.**

**Gatton Manor. A successful new venue. We will return - more in this issue- (Ed)**



**Right:**

**Eddie  
Stanley,  
clutching  
bottle &  
balls - 2nd  
place  
at Gatton  
Manor**



**N.Downs Team Prize: Bill Eslor, Andy Knight, Barbara Horsfall & Carl Rosner.**



**Gatton Manor Team Prize: Bill Eslor, Audrey Riddles, Harold Pesket & absent Peer Blakeley**



**Left: 4th  
Place  
Derek  
Reeves  
(just  
pipped on  
countback)  
by (right)  
Brian  
Girling.**



**Left:  
Double  
Birdie  
Fred  
&  
Right  
Plonker  
Hans!**



## DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Getting very well ahead of ourselves your Committee has now booked our **Autumn AGM Day**. This is to be held on Friday 26th October at Wildwood Golf & Country Club which is situated on the A281 at Alford, midway between Horsham & Guildford. This is yet another first time venue for the Wayfairers and looks most promising.

When these arrangements were being made we were informed that our previous regular AGM venue Chiddingfold has now been closed. Looks like the Committee made the right decision following our last meeting there.

### AND YET ANOTHER DATE BUT MUCH CLOSER

An unofficial Society gathering of members & friends is being held at Horne Park G.C. on Friday 13th April. The cost is £23 for coffee, 18 holes and a Two Course Meal. The Club is not far from Lingfield on the west side of the A22, and is a flat easy walking 9 hole Course with a par of 69. An "unofficial day" is one on which the money does not go through the Society's accounts, members can stay in casual wear after playing and no matter how well or badly you play your handicap will not be affected! Play to your highest handicap (Club or Society). £1 a head will be added for prizes which will be plentiful. Further details from John McD. but if interested you need to act now!

### OUR CHOSEN CHARITY FOR 2007

It was announced and agreed at our recent AGM that the meeting at Hoebridge (July 23rd) should be a Charity day, with some golf related fund raising activities to be organised. All the money gained from these, together with the total raffle profit on the day would then to go towards a specified charity.

The charity that has been chosen by the Committee is St. Catherine's Hospice, and John B. has been appointed chief fund raiser. He has already set the ball rolling by collecting £2 a head from all those who for no good reason were late with their last meeting payments. Be warned! He has very deep pockets!

### RETURN TO GATTON MANOR

Our recent visit to Gatton Manor proved so popular, that we have taken the unprecedented step of booking now for next March, as by doing this so far in advance they are prepared to maintain the same price for the same deal as this year. The date arranged is **TUESDAY 25th MARCH 2008**. Please note that Easter is extremely early next year and this is the day after the Easter Bank holiday. Knowing so far ahead hopefully this should cause no problems for our members, and those unfortunates who still have to go to work might be able to arrange a really nice long Easter weekend for themselves by not returning to their labours until the Wednesday!

We only have to fix our Christmas meeting now and we will know our programme in full for the next 12 months.

### The 30 & Over Club

#### North Downs

- 37 Alan Rose
- 36 Andy Knight
- 35 Brian Girling
- 34 Barbara Horsfall, Derek Reeves
- 31 Carl Rosner, Norman Lovelock
- 30 Chris Wilkes

A particularly good round was had by Andy playing off 14 H/C. With 2 blobs on his card he still managed 36 points.

#### Gatton Manor

- 35 Audrey Riddles
- 33 Eddie Stanley
- 30 Mike Church

#### The Gatton Manor Raffle

Many thanks to Ken Cooper for doing such an excellent job as Raffle Ticket Salesman. He took **£101**. Some excellent prizes were up for grabs but below was the Star Prize won by Guest Peter Smith.



### HANDICAPS FOR Holtys

ALLAN	33
ATWELL	24
BAILEY	31
BATESON	20
BLAKELEY	14
CATTERALL	17
CHURCH	18
COOPER, K	18
ESLOR, B	19
GIRLING	30
HARRIS, R	19
HENSHAW	34
HISTED	18
HITAM	21
HOGG	12
HORSFALL, B	32
HORSFALL, J	36
HOUHAN	24
KNIGHT	12
LOADER	32
LOVELOCK N	23
MARCHBANK	21
MCDONNELL, J	20
MCDONNELL, S	8
PESKETT	23
PRITCHARD	28
REEVES	28
RICHARDS	31
RIDDLES, A	23
RIDDLES, M	28
ROSE, A	26
ROSE, D	22
ROSNER, C	28
ROSNER, M	22
RUSHTON	17
SHELLEY	19
STANLEY	17
STOREY	6
WAGSTAFF	24
WARRILOW	28
WIDDOWSON	10
WILKES	6
WILLIAMS	17
WILSON	33
ZINKE	14

### Society Championship

Leading the men astray we have Barbara Horsfall with 93 points from three games, chased by Jeff Hogg and Alan Rose on 91. Tracking them on 89 is Brian Girling.

In a good position, but only so far having played two games, we have Michael Church on 68, Chris Wilkes on 66 and Derek Reeves on 64. A modest score next time out could see anyone of these taking the lead.