



THE WAYFAIRER



The Wayfairers Golf Society

Issue 165

April 2024

HORNE - A DAY TO REMEMBER (or to forget!)

Having endured constant rain during February and March we were hopeful that with the arrival of April and Spring, all would be well. With many courses closed, we were fortunate, with great foresight, to have chosen a course that had a buggy track and buggies available. Thus our meeting was able to go ahead. But what went wrong?!

Water and mud was in ample supply but our first two **walking** groups, who were both 3 balls, completed the course successfully. Playing conditions were not easy so **our worthy winner of the Wayfairers Shield with 29 points was DAVID SMITH**. Second place went to **JOHN BENSTEAD on 24 points**. **Terry King** with 21 pts. was third.

Other results were:	Richard Whitehead	20 points
	Carl Rosner	19 points
	Philip Boghurst	18 points

No one else completed the course.....!

Difficulty in scoring was compounded by the long walk from the buggy track to where ones ball had landed and our frailties, illnesses and injuries could not cope with the demands of the day. Difficulties were even hit with a problem camera when attempting to record the day's winners. But were we down hearted.... Well of course not... the coffee was good and the AGM was successfully mounted ensuring a further year for the Wayfairers !

The team prize, with only 3 in the team, was won by David, Carl and Richard with 63 points

The days competition was based on 18 holes but as so many only completed 9 holes an extra small prize was added for the best score on the front nine won with a good score of **15 points by Trevor Bacon**.

In these exceptional circumstances the only handicap adjustment being made is that the individual winner, David Smith, loses one shot.

Longest Drive Philip Boghurst

Nearest the Pin Richard Whitehead

(But it must be reported that the 3 ball well behind Richard stood little chance as the nearest pin marker was brought in believing that no one else was left playing!)

THE WAYFAIRER'S CHAMPION 2023

Congratulations Alan Beaumont

This is based on the total of best three scores during the year and a clear winner with a total of 93 points was Alan Beaumont. Alan wins the trophy and a bottle of Prosecco but as he was unable to stop for the dinner we do not have a photographic record of this achievement.

Second place went to Mick Shiels with 84 points.

The BLNT AWARD (Better Luck Next Time) Hedgehog was not awarded as on the day there were just too many contenders!

**AND SO TO OUR NEXT MEETING AS WE RETURN TO WELLSHURST GOLF CLUB ON
WEDNESDAY 5 JUNE 2024
North St. Hailsham BN27 4EL
Tel. 01435 813456**

If you wish to play please reply to the Secretary by 8th May 2024 at the latest with payment to our Treasurer Derek Reeves, via BACS

Account Name: Wayfairers Golf Society
Lloyds Bank. Sort Code 30-99-50 (Business Account)
Account Number 5381 7060

**The cost to include morning coffee and bacon roll,
18 holes of golf and a 2 course meal is £55.00**

Please advise Derek Reeves when payment is made (derek@wayfairers.co.uk)

Please also advise if not playing.

Please let us know if you require a buggy. To be paid for direct on the day.

Do have some loose change for the gratuity collection, minimum £2.00. This assumes we are satisfied with the service!

Do invite anyone you wish to play either as a one off guest or as a future member. The cost is the same for all and there is no joining fee.

If any non playing members would like to attend the meal at about 4.0pm please let us know and we will advise you of the charge.

As discussed at the AGM a raffle on the day will take place under arrangements being made by our new raffle maestro David Smith who will painlessly relieve you of your last farthing. (Do we have a new John McDonnell in the making?!)

PICTURES FROM HORNE PARK

Prizes presented by Derek Reeves
Photographs Courtesy of Richard and Mick



The Worthy Winner for the Day and winner of the Wayfairers Shield with 29 points was David Smith



*Second
John Bensteadg
With 24 points*



*Third
Terry King
With 21 points*



*Team Prize with 63 points
David, Richard and Carl*



*Nearest the Pin
Richard Whitehead*



*Longest Drive
Philip Boghurst*



*Best Score on Front 9
Trevor Bacon
with 15 points*



*Wayfairers Champion 2023
Alan Beaumont*

Summary of Scores and handicaps for Wellshurst

	HORNE			W. SHURST
	MEMBERS	H/C	Score	H/C
1	ALLEN	24		24
2	ATWELL	35		35
3	BACON	26		26
4	BATESON	36		36
5	BEAUMONT	12		12
6	BENSTEAD	25	24	25
7	BLAKELEY	15		15
8	BOGHURST	12	18	12
9	CROMPTON	27		27
10	FROST	21		21
11	KING T	22	21	22
12	LAVENDER	24		24
13	POOLE	18		18
14	NEWMAN			
15	REEVES	33		33
16	ROSNER, C	23	19	23
17	RUSHTON	23		23
18	SHIEL	29		29
19	SMITH D	24	29	23
20	STACEY K	27		27
21	WATERMAN	24		24
22	WHITEHEAD	20	20	20
23	WILKES	15		15
24	WONG	11		11
	AVERAGE	23		23

NOTES FROM 'THE WAYFAIRERS GOLF SOCIETY' AGM HELD AT HORNE PARK ON FRIDAY 2nd APRIL 2024

1. Apologies for Absence

Received from Kam Wong, Rob Crompton (attended the meal and prize-giving), Christopher Lavender, John Waterman.

2. Welcome to the Meeting

Derek Reeves (DR) welcomed everybody to the meeting and he confirmed that there was now a fairly tight schedule with the first tee-time being brought forward to 10.18am.

3. Notes of last meeting and matters arising

The notes were accepted unanimously and there were no matters arising.

4. Secretary's Report for the Year 2023

John Bateson (JB) firstly informed the meeting that one of our founder members, Frank Houlihan, had sadly passed away. Two other founder members, Jeff Hogg and Dennis Shelley have now resigned, partly owing to the additional travelling demands of the majority of our recent meetings.

The first meeting of 2023 was at Horne Park GC on April 2nd, won by a rejuvenated Terry King with 34 points on count-back from Kam Wong. Ifield GC followed on June 9th with Andy Knight taking the honours on 33 points, again in a close fought contest. The next course on the tour was Wellshurst GC on August 4th, where Alan Beaumont showed his undoubted class with a clear victory on 36 points. An unfortunate misread of the par 3 hole distance meant the players faced an uphill 186 yards hole for the 'nearest the pin' contest; a challenge not to be repeated! Even though the Society subsided Cherry Lodge GC on September 21st there was a disappointing attendance of only 8 players but this didn't deter John Benstead, who took the spoils with a creditable 27 points on a longish course. The attendance level improved, except for one member who shall remain nameless who overslept (don't tell'em your name Benstead!) on October 27th for Villa GC, combined with The Kentish Horse for apres golf sustenance, and Derek Reeves put together a sparkling round of 35 points to win. And finally onto the regular pre-Christmas Texas Scramble at Holtze GC on December 15th where Philip Boghurst, Chris Wilkes, David Smith and John Benstead just managed to scramble home by 1 point from Terry King, Kam Wong and Richard Whitehead! After an excellent meal and some entertainment, including a very puzzling quiz and musical extravaganza from Terry King, the Wayfairers golfing year was brought to a close.

5. Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31st December 2023

DR confirmed that the reduced membership numbers had inevitably impacted our ability to achieve the keenest rates for a Society day, so that over the six venues there was a loss of around £107, with Cherry Lodge unsurprisingly contributing over 80% of that figure. Peter Rushton confirmed his acceptance of the Accounts with thanks to DR as the task had been very straightforward.

6. Election of Officers and Independent Examiner

DR asked if there were any further nominations and as there were none, the current Officers and the Independent Examiner position were confirmed unopposed.

7. Prospects and future of the Wayfairers

Cost and itinerary:

JB advised the meeting that more members were clearly required, both to help keep individual event prices as competitive/reasonable as possible but also to improve the likelihood of the society being able to continue as a going concern. In response Terry King offered to speak to the new General Manager at Holtye GC, ie Rupert Hunter(RH), to see whether he would include a piece about The Wayfairers being open to new players of both sexes in his regular email circular to all Holtye members. This proposal was accepted unanimously. In addition JB asked all members to feel free to mention The Wayfairers to other golfers they knew. Carl Rosner noted that he had already done so to a fellow member at Holtye.

In terms of the targeted cost, based on our current numbers, it looks like £50-60 per head is now the going rate for most courses of a reasonable standard. David Smith(DS) enquired whether a modest subsidy, say £10 per head, should be considered. This point was left open for further consideration.

Future events:

JB advised the meeting that Wellshurst GC had been booked for June 5th and JB/DR were considering a visit to Coulsdon Manor GC in July, followed by Villa GC in the autumn and then Holtye GC just before Christmas. This outline schedule therefore left room for one more course and Rookwood GC was one possibility. Peer Blakeley offered to investigate costs, buggy availability and the facilities at Reigate Hill GC as an option.

Competitions and trophies:

JB advised the meeting that we will now only now engrave The Wayfairers Shield. There is one new prize, with a repurposed old trophy, to be awarded ie Champion Golfer of the Year and will be won by the member with the highest aggregate Stableford score from their best three scores of the year. The first recipient will be for 2023.

8. Future of the raffle

After discussion it was agreed that the old Raffle system would be reintroduced with a £5 entry fee payable 'on the day'. DS volunteered to manage the Raffle which was accepted unanimously.

The meeting was closed at 9.50am for the revels to begin!