

OLD CRANLEIGHAN GOLF SOCIETY

SPRING IS HERE!

1 Halford Hewitt

Nearly 30 OCs, together with the headmaster and Mike Payne, gathered at Deal last week to support our Halford Hewitt team in our 70th appearance at this notable competition organised by the Public Schools Golf Association. Drawn against a young Old Etonian side, the team battled against a cold and strong northerly wind to lose 1½ to 3½ in the first round. Sadly Marcus Ferguson-Jones was unable to play, so Tony Whitty led the team consisting of John Davies, Martin Riddiford, Oliver Rosenberg, Mike Crane, Richard Williams, Luke Parry, Adam Kendrick, Mark Connelly, and Abeed Janmohamed, with Matthew Hansford acting as team coach. In the final, Tonbridge beat Merchant Taylors 3-2, having overcome a strong Bradfield side in the semis. In the Prince's Plate we disappointingly lost to St. Bee's. It was good to see Adam Kendrick come down from university during his finals to play his first HH. We hope this will encourage more young OCs to boost our aging team.

2 The Spring Meeting: 22nd May

We have some 28 OC golfers who have applied to play at Liphook on 22nd May. Tony will be sending-out information about the day later this month and you are asked to respond with the information we need by 12th May.

In case you haven't applied to play, please could you let Tony Whitty know as soon as possible. His email address is tony@cabotaviation.com His mobile number is 07970 943384.

3 Results to date

Dulwich: 8th February

Cancelled because of snow.

Royal Cinque Ports: 14th February

In a warm-up for the Halford Hewitt, the OCs beat RCPGC 5½ to 4½ to collect the Brazell Trophy. A full list of the results can be seen in the OCGS web site.

Brent Knowl Bowl: 28th March

Sadly our team was badly depleted through illnesses and injuries. We lost to Leatherjackets on Saturday and did not progress beyond the first round in the plate.

Old Tonbridgians: 29th March at Royal Ashdown Forest

As ever, Tim Kemp organised an excellent day's golf on this superb course. At lunch, we were down 1-3, partly due to your captain's failure to sink a couple of easy putts and make an awful approach on the 17th. However, in the afternoon we claimed victory by the fact that we vastly out-numbered the OTs and won all our matches. Tim has asked me to record a 4-3 win!

If you haven't played RAFGC, I thoroughly recommend it. We have a match there against the club on August 15th and one against Old Johnians on September 27th, both organised by Tim Kemp, whose number is 01342 822784.

4 Knock-out Tournament

Michael Crane has again offered to run the knock-out tournament and will be sending out the draw imminently.

5 2009 Halford Hewitt Trivia

- The combined handicaps of our team was 48 compared to 20 for Eton and only 5 for Bradfield, who beat Eton in the second round and lost to the winners, Tonbridge in the semi final.
- In the Halford Hewitt Anderson Scale, Cranleigh is rated 26th compared to Eton at 5th. The average points per year for the OCs is 1.042 compared with Eton at 2.269.
- In "The Small Scale" Cranleigh is 34th (out of 64 schools) compared to Eton at 11. The points difference was 92.7.
- The wind varied between 20 and 30 mph the day we played and the temperature dropped to 4 degree C.
- A member of Bradfield's team, Torrance Jr, was 20 yards short of the green on the 12th; some 450 yards! He was wind-assisted, obviously.
- Our record of results in the 70 years we have been playing is:
Round 1 24; round 2 25; round 3 12; quarter finals 7; semi final 1, final 1.
We have never won the competition but came closest in 1968, losing to Eton 2-3. John Davies played in that match and is still playing 30 years later!
- Seen above the urinals in the lavatories of Prince's Club "40 minutes swing lesson £20, groups £50"!

David Willis
Captain, OCGS

01483 232659

oldfart28@hotmail.com

6th April 2009