



OLD CRANLEIGHAN GOLF SOCIETY

LATE SUMMER SUN AND LOTS OF GOOD GOLF

1 The G.L. Mellin, Peter Burles and Bunny Millard Salvors

Over three hot July days, six OCGS teams of two competed in these three competitions at West Hill Golf Club under the excellent management of Max Hunt. Following our successes last year as runners-up in both the Peter Burles Plate (for over 65s) and the Bunny Millard Salver (for over 75s), it was just reward that Bob Stovold and Robin Elsdon-Dew won the Bunny Millard by beating Cheltenham on the 18th, having similarly beaten Aldenham in the semi-final. Unfortunately our Mellin team of Tony Mote, Andrew Cronk, Richard Williams, Anthony Fey and Max Hunt did not fare so well in either the first round or the Plate. Neither did our over 65s team of Derek Lyons, Mickey Moore Ian Tuson and Roger Hills manage to go beyond the first round of the Peter Burles Salver or Plate.

To celebrate both the 50th anniversary of the G.L. Mellin competition and the 100th anniversary of West Hill GC, thirteen OCGS golfers attended a splendid dinner at West Hill at which Hamie Ritchie, captain of the R&A, replied on behalf of the guests.



2 Grafton-Morrish

A team of three pairs played for the Grafton Morrish Trophy on Hunstanton and Brancaster courses the last weekend of September. Our 3 - 0 win against Brentwood on Friday was not emulated on Saturday, when we went down to Berkhamstead 1 - 2. However, our 86 points scored by:

Martin Riddiford and Max Hunt – 25 points

Adam Kendrick and Fraser Moore – 31 points including six birdies!

Tony Whitty and Craig Moore – 30 points

qualified us for the plate competition in which we came 6th out of 18 schools but we lost in the semi final to Whitgift in a tight match.

It was good to see new (young) faces playing under the excellent organisation of Matthew Hansford and Martin Riddiford. Oliver Rosenberg, a past team member, was confined to barracks as an expectant father.

3 Royal Wimbledon Putting Competition

Following reports that London had suffered from three months' rain in three hours during the previous day, eleven putters enjoyed a dry evening in the peaceful surroundings of the Royal Wimbledon Golf Club. Alan Whitehead showed consistently good form in the three rounds to win the final by one putt against Robin Elsdon-Dew. Celia Willis won the ladies competition with an average score of 34 putts per round.

The putting competition is a great way to rid oneself of office stress and Wimbledon is only half an hour from the City, so I encourage more pen-pushers – or may be keyboard digitisers - to participate next year.

4 Autumn Meeting

West Sussex Golf Club must surely be in one of the loveliest parts of southern England and the scenery was at its best under a cloudless September sky. For some of us the thick heather and long carries were a bit too much but not for Mickey Moore, who went round in 77 off a ten handicap and matched his remarkable Spring meeting score of 40 stableford points to take both the Scratch and John Oxer Cups, the latter with 80 points! Jonathan Williams scored 38 stableford points to win the Rhodes Cup, as no one person is allowed to win more than one prize from the morning competitions. Other winners were:

Vice President's Cup (for under 55 years)	Adam Willson	30 points
Veteran's Cup	Mike Hart	35 points
Low handicap	Jamie Fuller	31 points
Medium handicap	Fen Scott	35 points

High handicap	Alan Whitehead	30 points
Lovell Garrett foursomes	Derek Lyons and Adam Willson	36 points

5 Recent Matches

Since June, we have had a mixed bag of results from some tight individual matches. Jonathan Williams took-over from the injured Tony Rogers to manage a good win against West Sussex. Unfortunately we were unable to field a full team against Old Lorretonians, who had to lend us three players, which may have accounted for our poor result! Tim Kemp did a great job as match manager for both the OCs and Royal Ashdown Forest. He managed to gather two teams of 14 players, including three OCs playing for our hosts, Royal Ashdown Forest. It is a real compliment to both Tim and the OCGS, that a club of the quality of RAFGC should get together so many players on a Saturday morning. Derek Lyons managed the inaugural match against the Commonwealth Golf Society at Royal Wimbledon, where we recorded a good win on a blissfully hot sunny day. They seemed decent chaps and I hope we can put this match on our fixture list for future years.

West Sussex	WON 8 - 4
Old Lorretonians at Walton Heath	LOST ½ - 4½
Royal Ashdown Forest	LOST 5 - 8
Commonwealth GS at Royal Wimbledon	WON 4 - 2
School at St George's Hill for the Gordon Taylor Trophy	WON 4 - 0
Old Johnians at Royal Ashdown Forest	DREW 4 - 4

The web site www.OCGS.org.uk, which is efficiently maintained by Michael Crane, who also looks after the society clothing, gives full results of competitions and matches.

6 Knock-out Tournament

Mickey Moore, the holder of the knock-out cup, is again in the finals and is due to meet either Mark Burrige or Andrew Cronk. Mickey has been showing excellent form and is bound to give his opponent a tough game.

7 Autumn Weekend at Deal: 10th and 11th October

The two days at Royal Cinque Ports Golf Club is eagerly awaited by your captain and a small group of golfers who, on Saturday, will be playing the club or in the John Brazell Trophy and, on Sunday, in the Gordon Taylor Trophy. A splendid Hoggett decanter suitably engraved to the memory of Gordon is to be presented to the club for it to hold as a permanent prize for the winner of this competition.

8 Annual Dinner

The Annual Dinner will again take place on 5th November at Boodles, thanks to Paul Jackson, who is a member. **Applications and details have been sent to you and I would appreciate your reply soonest. Please note full-time students under 25 will pay only £35.** I therefore encourage those younger members to get together a table or two to enjoy what is normally a splendid evening.

9 Next year's meetings

Next year's meetings:

Spring Meeting	The Berkshire	20 th May 2010
Invitational	Woking	4 th June 2010
Autumn Meeting	West Hill	21 st September 2010

10 Captaincy

This is the last newsletter under my captaincy and I will be handing-over to Jonathan Williams after the Annual Dinner. I have enjoyed my year enormously and thank the committee for their support and all those who have helped organise matches and competitions and, indeed, put up with my awful golf! But that is what is so good about golf; one can enjoy a game even if one is playing with someone much better or worse than oneself, and he/she can be fifty years older or younger! There can be few games which attract such a big age and competency difference, played with absolute honesty and enjoyed in some of the loveliest countryside and in all sorts of weather. Here's to golf and another great year with the OCGS.

I hope to see you at the Annual Dinner!

David Willis
Captain, OCGS

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