



Recent events at West Berks

Flat out on the M4

With two, albeit comparatively quiet weeks to catch up on, we start on Monday November 25 when our M4 Seniors Winter League team won 2½ to 1½ at The Downshire.

This means that the West Berks team led by the incoming men's captain, Rob Bridgeman, take an unbeaten record into the mid-winter break. They have returned six wins and one half in the seven matches played and this puts them in a very strong, but not yet unassailable, position at the top of the Nonsuch division with three matches remaining.

In the matches to come they visit Sand Martins on Monday February 3, entertain Donnington Grove on Monday February 24 and travel to Sandford Springs for the last match of the 2019/2020 campaign on Wednesday March 4. Well-done team. Take a break!

Winter Leagues progress

Both the men's and ladies' winter league competitions have completed their pre-Christmas programmes. On Saturday November 30 Jane Brackenbury won Round 4 of the ladies' competition with 29 points. Sian Soanes was three shots behind in second place while Mary Harwood beat Gale McAuley into third place on count-back.

On Sunday December 1, Martin Anscombe and Andy Robbings overcame almost Artic-like conditions to win Round 2 of the men's comp, a Texas Scramble, with 58 points. Robin Land and Aaron Rid were second on 56 points while Kevin and Garry Dixon with 54 points beat Rob Bridgeman and Dave Ware on count-back to take third place.

Aileen takes Winter Trophy

Aileen Summers scored 31 points to win a closely fought ladies' Winter Trophy Stableford on Tuesday December 3. She

beat Lyn Pell who took second place on count-back while Jane Wilmore was a single shot behind in third place.

Christmas Fun and Macmillan wins

The organisers billed it as a Christmas Fun event and it was certainly that. Plus, the weather on Saturday was positively balmy compared with recent weeks.

Fifteen teams of four contested the mixed Am-Am format competition that enjoyed the added complication that all four players had to score on the par three holes.

The team of Robin and Kevin Knape, Andy Goodchild and Graham (Chesty) Miles, took first place with an impressive 109 points. Graham Bindly, Chris Moore, Carl McCartney and Nigel Huszarik were a single point behind in second place while Phil Clare, Simon Brown, Keith Hawton and Roger Hunt were a further point behind in third spot.

Other prizes went to Jane Brackenbury, nearest the pin in two on the third, Jason Kendal, nearest the pin on the seventh and Brian Reid, nearest the pin on the seventeenth.

Many thanks go to Tina Mulford and Sian Soanes for organising the event and the raffle that raised £165 for Macmillan Cancer Support. Tina and Sian asked



Aileen's a winter winner

TTNB to pass on their thanks to all those who supported the day.

No joke on Sunday

The team comprising Phil Moss, Tim Holmes, John Baron and Gary Robinson won the men's 'Joker' Am-Am competition played yesterday.

In a tight match with just one point separating the top four teams, their 107 points relegated the team of Mike Denny, Patrick Wilmore, Rob Graham and Martin Rolls to second place on count-back.

Keith Wilkins, Chris Moore, John (JC) Carroll and Pete Dye were just one point behind and beat Jason Kendal, Steve Cox, Jane Brackenbury and Kevin Wilkins on count-back to take third place.

Ticker's on TV tonight

*Watch Tony (Ticker) Athawes on tonight's (Monday) TV screening of the national Tilbury Tour in which he gained a top ten spot.
Channels: Freeview 64 and Sky 422*

Dear Fink

Because I am now of an age where I have the time but not the energy to engage in a diverse range of golfing activities it was with some trepidation that I recently played in a mixed competition for the first time since Les and Tina took over from Fred.

One of the problems I thought might occur was the chance of lapsing into bad language but I did not have to worry. Yes, the ladies did swear quite a lot but there was nothing that I had not heard before, although I have to say I have not heard some of the phrases since I was demobbed from the army. All in all I thought I managed it rather well and I made every effort not to appear too shocked.

I noticed that many of these transgressions occurred on the putting green which leads me to ask if you think my untrustworthy putting stroke would be improved if I adopted the freedom of expression shown by my recent playing partners.

Mildly-shocked of Middle Shefford.

Dear Mildly

There can be no doubt that tension can affect the execution of the golf shot particular the 'feel' shots such as putting. So releasing tension by uttering a forthright, if somewhat industrial, expression may at times serve some purpose.

But you have to mean it. You must not act out of character. My advice to a nice gentle soul like yourself is to restrict your response to the occasionally 'tut-tut' and be on your way. Plus, if memory serves me correctly, your putting is pretty much beyond redemption anyway.

Please pass on Christmas greetings to all my friends at West Berks.

Fink Wright

The eminent sports psychologist, Fink Wright, will be answering more readers' questions in the New Year.

Why not send him an email

WBGC 2020 Officers and General Committee

This is the constitution of the 2020 general committee following the AGM held on Wednesday November 20 2019.

President: Gordon Munro

Officers

Chairman: Kevin Hopwood

Secretary: Sandy Miller

Treasurer: Nick Jones

Captains

Men's Captain: Rob Bridgeman

Seniors' Captain: Bob Ekins

Ladies' representative:

Tina Mulford

Committee Members

Greg Collins

Stuart Harrison

Stuart Murphy

Brian Reid

Kevin Wilkins

Patrick Wilmore

The rest of 2019 at WBGC

December at WBGC

Tue 10 Ladies: 8-hole comp and Christmas Lunch

Wed 11 Men: Midweek Turkey Trot singles

Ladies: Midweek Turkey Trot singles

Sat 14 Men & Ladies: Turkey Trot singles

Sun 15 **CAPTAIN'S DRIVE-IN**

Men & Ladies: Team Turkey Trot

Sat 21 'Old' and 'New' Challenge

With Christmas a little over two weeks away, we enter the last phase of competitions at West Berks in 2019. However, there is still a lot of competitive fun to be had.

Tomorrow, Tuesday, the ladies have their eight-hole Christmas competition followed by an 18-hole lunch while on Wednesday the ladies' and men's midweek single Turkey Trot competitions are held presenting members with their first chance of winning the basic ingredient of their Christmas lunch.

The weekend single Turkey Trots are played on Saturday while on Sunday we all assemble for the 0900 'shotgun start' of the Team Turkey Trot, an event that is followed by prize-giving and the Captain's Drive-In. An occasion not to miss!

On Saturday, December 21 there is the 'Old and New' Challenge where pairs comprising one 'old' and one 'new' West Berks member will be drawn to compete in a better-ball stableford competition. Paul hopes to make the draw later this week.

It all promises to be good fun that we hope to cover in next week's TTNB that will be the last issue of 2019. Enjoy the rest of the year.