



Goodbye to 2020 and all that

WELL what a year that was. 2020 came in like a lion accompanied by storms with names as exotic as Ciara and as prosaic as Dennis sweeping across the country. It left like a demented elephant with Covid-19 still lashing out indiscriminately at the vulnerable and hearty alike.

As for many years before, our golfing year in 2020 started gathering pace in February and we were more concerned about the weather than a global pandemic. At that stage the dreaded C-word had not darkened these pages and we were concerning ourselves with matters of seemingly great importance such as the changes to our participation in the Scratch and

Sevens leagues. Ah, the beauty of innocence. The disruption was as quick as it was total. We were in lockdown for about eight weeks from March 24 until May 13 and competitions started again soon after. We played a vastly modified programme under drastically changed conditions but it was golf and we were playing. Lockdown 2 then came into effect on November 5 until December 2 and now, in what is surely Covid's last swipe of the year, we are in Tier 4 and our golf is limited to two-balls with the exclusion of those who live outside the county.

All extremely unsatisfactory of course but it will be well worth the effort if we can hang on

until we nail this virus once and for all. All at TTNB wish you the best possible Christmas under the circumstances and look forward to seeing you back in action at West Berks early in 2021.

We must end with a repeat of the thanks offered in our report on the AGM. This has been a very difficult and testing year for the owners, staff, officers and general committee of the club and we thank them for all their efforts during a very difficult year. Well done.

Liam has the last word

WE MAY have lost the Turkey Trot but inform Liam Bint was not to be denied over what proved to be the last competitive weekend of 2020.

Having won Division 1 of the men's November medal, Liam went three better over the weekend of December 12 and 13 when he won the Saturday stableford, the final round of the Gillas Cup and the overall Gillas competition. He scored 39 points in the Saturday stableford to win by two shots from Dan Hoskin while Chris Ward was a further point back in third spot.

In the Gillas final on the following day, a model of consistency, he again scored 39 points winning on the day by a single shot from a three-way tie between Andrew McAllister, Richard Campbell and Chris Moore that was resolved in that order on count-back.

The overall title was also closely fought. With the winner decided by the highest aggregate of the best score in rounds one and two added to the score in the final, Liam's 39 points in R1

(what else?) gave him an aggregate of 78 points to win by two shots ahead of another three-way tie for second place with Andrew McAllister taking second spot, Carl McCartney third and John (JC) Carroll fourth.

It's not a Christmas lunch but

December 8 was planned to be the ladies' 8-hole competition and Christmas lunch but instead the ladies played the December Winter Trophy Stableford that was due to be played the previous week but postponed due to Lockdown 2. Renee Wheeler won with 28 points while Georgie Seaman was a point behind in second spot and Aileen Summers with 26 points won a three-way tie on 26 points on count-back from Sandy Miller and Sally Field to take third spot.

It's a team game

The team comprising Mark Motion, Mustapha (Muz) Mzouri, John Baron and Simon Clifford won the mixed Christmas Waltz (1,2,3:1,2,3)



Liam's winning weekend

competition held on Saturday December 12 with a splendid 94 points. They were five shots clear of Dan Hoskin, Liam Bint, Jim Harris and Matt Harris who were second and the team of Colin Price, Toby Richards, Ray Pithers and Stuart Harrison was third with 88.

The ball that says it all

YOUR editor was accosted while on the course a couple of weeks back by someone who looked a bit like, and sounded a lot like, a hirsute Chris Terrett. He presented me with an intriguingly marked golf ball. It bore three simple legends. One was the makers name: 'Vice' the second: 'Will you marry me?' and a third: 'TOUR'.

So it appears we have a confession, an invitation and a suggestion for the honeymoon all on one ball. Well done Chris - thanks for that.

**See Page 2
for a review
of 2020 in
pictures**

Not-to-be forgotten 2020 remembered

AS THE New Year approaches we take our usual look at the past twelve months in pictures. In this extraordinary year we recall the damage inflicted on the twelfth fairway by Storm Ciara and our four champions of 2020: Christy Whelehan, Jane Brackenbury, Gale McAuley and Tony (Ticker) Athawes. We have also cheated a little because, as there was no Turkey Trot weekend this year, Pete Dye, Sian Soanes, Tina Mulford and Murph Abraham are shown in happier times in 2019. Finally, Mark Ridgill's picture is a reminder that there is hope at the end of the rainbow.



Ciara's calling card



Our club champs: Christy and Jane



Gale takes ladies' senior title



A reminder of Christmases past



Ticker is senior champ



There is hope

TTNB wishes all our readers a restful Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year. We look forward to sharing with you a great golfing year in 2021.