

The latest results - unfortunately the last for a while

CONGRATULATIONS to those below who managed to make hay in the last of the sunshine before the dreaded second lockdown was enforced. Sunshine? That's a joke. It was pouring down and blowing a gale most of the time but past evidence would suggest that we are set for good weather during lockdown.

It's Chloe again!

Chloe Somerville, having won the September ladies' midweek medal, continued the winning start to her golfing career when she won the October event on Tuesday October 20. Chloe, no doubt celebrating the relaxed atmosphere of a competition after playing practice rounds with her grandfather, Tony Coventry, shot a gross 104 net 69. Georgie Seaman was second with net 74 while Jane Wilmore was third on net 82.

Jim's Saturday's man

Jim Harris scored 41 points to win the men's Saturday stableford on October 24 while Craig Marsh scored 38 points to beat Adrian Monger on countback to take second place.

Shaun's up front in the Gillas

Shaun Ponsford scored a remarkable 45 points to win Round 1 of the men's Gillas Cup at West Berks on Sunday, a competition in which the best score of the first two rounds is added to the score in the final. Shaun with ten pars and three birdies set a high standard that was followed by a strong field with 40 of the 102 entrants scoring 40 points or more. Jason Read and Andy Greaves were closest, both scoring 43 points and finishing second and third on countback.

Sean shaves it

There was a neat homophone on the following day when Sean Sheils won the men's midweek stableford with 38 points holding off the challenges of Brian Holmes who was second with 36 points and Harry White who was two shots further back in third spot.

Weather takes hold

The weather then put paid to the midweek mixed competition planned for the Tuesday October 27 while the Saturday stableford on October 31 was also declared a non-event despite two hardy entrants, namely Phil Clare and Craig Marsh returning the highly respectable scores of 38 and 37 respectively.

Liam wins November medal

The wet and stormy weather that played havoc with the week's fixtures abated sufficiently for 109 competitors to play in the men's monthly medal on Sunday.

Liam Bint scored a two-over-par gross 75, net 67 to win Division 1 while Jason Kendal was second with 72, 69 and Matthew Harris third with 78, 70. Tony Atkins shot a gross 82, net 68 to win Division 2, while John Baron and Stuart King both returned 86, 69 with John taking second spot on countback.

Meanwhile, Mick Moss returned the best net score of the day to win Division 3 with gross 86, 66. Jim Harris with gross 94, 71 claimed second spot and Muz

Mzouri with 93, 72 beat Andy Goodchild 92, 72 on countback to take third spot.

Tina is first and last

Yesterday's ladies' Winter Trophy stableford competition had the distinction of being the first competition at West Berks to be held under the new WHS and being the last before Lockdown 11.

Tina Mulford won on a bright if chilly day with 35 points, followed by Aileen Summers on 31 and Carol Sparvell with 28 points took third place.



Liam Bint: November medal winner

A message from your Chairman

It is regrettable that due to the national lockdown, golf is suspended for all from tomorrow until further notice.

Allowing that golf is one of the safest recreational activities and given the Government's desire to keep everyone active and fit it seems somewhat harsh.

We must hope that a well-supported petition organised by the National Club Golfer and the efforts of England Golf and the R&A will bring pressure to bear on our politicians for an early reprieve.

In the meantime, I would like to thank all our members for your co-operation in making golf at West

Berks as safe as it can be over the past few months.

I wish you well and hope you stay safe until we are allowed to return to our favourite pastime.

Best wishes to you all,

Kevin Hopwood

West Berks Autumn Ode

by

Tina Mulford

West Berks is in its Autumn hue

It gives us all a wonderful view.

Red and yellow, with visions of gold

A glorious sight for us to behold.

While you are walking round the course

The choice of common sense is yours

To keep your trolleys away from the greens,

For in the long term it all means

You can save yourselves asking with a sigh

Why your ball is not in a better lie!

When all the leaves have blown away

Winter golf will be well on the way.

Those crisp wintry days with an icy frosting

We will soon be out there Turkey Trotting!

Tina's ode sounds in good cheer

Then Boris turns up to interfere!

Ed

He's a bit of a card our Boris

You have to admit it: Boris is a bit of a wag. No matter on what side of the political divide you dwell, you have to agree he has a great sense of humour and, like all comedians, his timing is spot on.

He and his cronies have been sitting in Downing Street for the best part of six months watching the golfing world getting in a bit of tizzy about WHS.

Golfers of all ages and creeds have been trying to estimate their handicap index and waiting to see what slope and course ratings will be assigned to their favourite golfing venues.

As November 2 approached we were all ready. We had obeyed the exhortations from our handicap secretaries: we had viewed the posters, read the updates, studied the special section on the website and, rumour abounds, some even read TTNB. We were ready.

So what masterstroke does Boris pull? November 2 arrives, we have two days of golf, we hold one competition and go into lockdown for a month. The only consolation is that we can be sure that the weather will improve.

As our chairman points out on the front page we must hope that political pressure will bear fruit because it's not just *possible* to play safe golf, the structure of the game *demand*s social distancing. We can but hope.

Stay safe and cheerful.

Ed.

There really is a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow



But which one? Our thanks to Tina Mulford (bottom left) and Mark Ridgill for these lovely pics. Just what's required to alleviate pre-lockdown blues