



TEE TIMES NEWS BULLETIN

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Champs take the October medals

BOTH OUR ladies' and men's reigning club champions, Jane Brackenbury and Christy Whelehan, won their respective October medals. On Saturday October 2, Jane overcame extremely wet and windy conditions to win the ladies' medal with a gross 84, net 76 while Tina Mulford took second place with net 85 and Sandy Miller was two shots further back third.

The following day Christy won Division 1 of the men's competition with a gross one-under-par 72, net 69. Mark Kendal with gross 77 and Chris Ramsey, gross 84 both scored net 71 with Mark taking second spot on countback. Dan Hawkins won Division 2 with gross 102, net 67 while Ian Miles was second with gross 84, net 68 and Steve Haylor, gross 86, net 69, was third.

Darren is Saturday's man

Darren Morton won the men's Saturday stableford competition played on October 2 with 34 points. Jason Kendal with 33 points beat Steve Fisher on countback to take second spot.

In-form Georgie

In-form Georgie Seaman followed up a win in the Saturday stableford on September 25 by winning the ladies' monthly midweek stableford on Tuesday October 5 with a splendid 42 points. Jane Wilmore was second on 33 and Renee Wheeler a further shot back in third spot.

Chris leads the way in midweek

Chris (Rambo) Prior won a hotly contested men's midweek stableford on Friday October 8 with 42 points. Ricky Skrzydlo claimed the runners-up slot with 39 points while a four-way tie on 38 was resolved in the order of Andrew Grayson, Geoff Pudner, Greg Collins and Kieran Watson on countback.

Jane carries form into Gillas

Jane Brackenbury followed up her medal success by scoring 40 points to record a resounding win in Round 2 of the ladies' Gillas Cup on Saturday October 9. With a gross medal score of four-over par 78, Jane played the last five holes in two under par in a round that included four birdies, six pars and eight bogeys. Not a double in sight!

Renee Wheeler was second with 33 points and Sandy Miller third with 27. This result means that Jane takes a healthy lead into the final round on Saturday October 16. But many a slip!

Team matters

The seniors undertook a new fixture when they visited Upavon on Friday October 1 and lost a series of close matches 3½ to 2½. The annual match between the seniors and ladies for the Chris Greem Trophy was played on Tuesday October 12 and ended in an honourable 3-3 draw. See page 2 for round up of the seniors' season.

Meanwhile, torrential rain caused the men's Saturday friendly match on October 2 at home to Ogbourne Downs to be postponed after eight holes. The mixed team enjoyed much better weather when they played their last match of 2021 at Bradfield College on Thursday October 7 and Sian Soanes reports that although it was a most enjoyable occasion the home side won the match 4-1.

The West Berks team that plays in Division 1 of the Central Sevens Golf League completed its fixtures with a hard-fought 4-3 victory over Cotswold Club on Saturday October 9 to finish third in the division. Congratulations to Colin Price and his team that has represented the club so well throughout the year.

It's good to report that the M4 Senior Winter League is up and running again and our first match under the guidance of Andy Robbings played on Monday October 11 was a 2-2 draw away at The Downshire.

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Seniors close to the end of the road

Did you know?

Rest of October at WBGC

Corbridge Cup



Christy and Jane – club champs and October medallists



In-form Georgie Seaman

Seniors close to the end of the road

I TRUST that the headline does not mislead, I mean, of course, close to the end of season 2021. And a very good season it was for our senior team. They have just one remaining match this year, an away fixture at Ogbourne Downs on Thursday October 14.

Although some of the early matches were 'golf only' and lacked the normal fine hospitality associated with these events, normal service has been resumed of late. Up to this date 16 inter-club matches have been held with the Ogbourne game yet to be played. Of these, nine have been won, three halved and four lost with just one of the defeats being at home. Congratulations to our Senior Captain, Bob Ekins, and his team for achieving a fine record under difficult circumstances.

Some 38 players will have represented the seniors this year. Senior secretary and match organiser, Barrie Seaman, reports that the Covid-enforced system of on-line recruitment for matches, used in place of the traditional lists posted in the clubhouse has worked very well with every match being comfortably oversubscribed.

The Seniors AGM will be held in the dining room of the clubhouse on Friday October 22 at 4:15pm. Next year's proposed captain, Steve Haylor, will be seeking nomination from the meeting for ratification at the Club AGM. We wish him well.



Steve Haylor (left) and Bob Ekins with Captain Rob

Rest of October at WBGC

- Thu 14 Seniors v Ogbourne Downs (A)
- Sat 16 Men: Stableford
Ladies: Gillas Cup Final
- Sun 17 Men: Gillas Cup R1
- Tue 19 Ladies: Monthly Midweek Medal
- Wed 20 Men: Midweek Stableford (Y)
- Fri 22 MEN'S SENIORS' AGM 1615hr
- Sat 23 Men: Stableford
Men v Broome Manor (A)
Ladies: Winter Fun Competition
- Sun 24 Men: Gillas Cup R2
- Mon 25 Men: Midweek Stableford (Y)
- Tue 26 Mixed: Monthly Midweek competition
- Sat 30 Men: Stableford
Ladies: Winter League
- Sun 31 Men: Gillas Cup R3

Corbridge Cup

The team comprising Greg Collins, Simon Barrie, Darren Boulton and Liam Bint won the Corbridge Air Ambulance Cup played on Sunday October 10 with 91 points. Steve White, Dan Bowsher, Christy Whelehan and Chris Prior were second with 89 while Giles Feltham, John Harris, Mark Motion and Bob Ekins were third on 87.

We hope to bring you details of how much money was generated on the day for Thames Valley Air Ambulance in our next issue.

Did you know?

WHILE THE earliest recorded game of golf dates back to the fifteenth century it was not until 1891 that the size of the hole was standardised. The earliest golf holes were simply dug out with a trowel to an approximate size but as golf began to be played more widely, the R&A decided in 1891 to fix a standard.

Some years earlier, believed to be in 1829, Royal Musselburgh Golf Club, deemed by The Guinness Book of Records to be the world's oldest golf club, was already ahead of the game and had pioneered the cleanly cut, standard-sized hole. The club had also developed the first known hole-cutter based on a piece of drainage pipe used at the time, that produced a 4¼ inch diameter hole.

Delegates from the R&A visited Musselburgh in 1891 and decided to make that the standard. Later that year the R&A, at the time golf's sole governing body, issued a new rule book stipulating that the hole size of 4¼ inch diameter and 4 inch deep should be standard on golf courses everywhere.

That has been used world-wide ever since and remains so to this day. There have, however, been several attempts, strongly supported by many top professionals at the time, to increase the size of the hole in order to decrease the importance of putting but 4¼ inch it remains. No doubt there are a few members of WBGC that would like a vote on that.

Dave Ware