

Richmond Park Golf Club

NEWS FROM THE PARK



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Editor: Richard Owen

This newsletter seeks to keep members informed of club news and up-coming events. Any items for inclusion in future issues, please advise Richard Owen or Gural Sekhon.

NEWS

- As many of you are aware, Gill Hibbs died last year. Gill loved everything about Richmond Park Golf Club and was always someone who joined in and had fun. In her will, Gill bequeathed a generous sum of money for the current members of the club to hold a golf day at her expense. Gill asked that this be a really memorable, fun day out and the committee have been working hard over the past few months, in liaison with Gill's executrix, to plan the event. These arrangements have been confirmed this week and the golf day will be held at The Drift Golf Club, just outside East Horsley in Surrey (near A3/M25 junction) on Friday September 5th. We hope as many members as possible will be able to attend. We will be effectively taking over the course and clubhouse for the day and doing everything we can to make sure it's the special day that Gill wanted for us. More details to follow in due course, however it's important that we get an idea of numbers asap, so we will be starting a list of participants this weekend. So get **FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 5th** in your diaries and if you are not going to be coming down for a week or two, please let Di Jackett, Richard Owen or Dave Williams know whether you can make it. With 3 months' notice we're hoping to have 60 plus.
- It seems the Royal Parks/Glendale planning application for a new clubhouse, driving range, academy course and associated course changes, which was submitted in November 2007 has stalled, with objections from the GLA (Mayor's office) on transport grounds, among other things. This means that it is highly unlikely that we will be moving out of the 'cabin' for at least 18 months to two years, and it's even possible that they may have to build the new clubhouse near Roehampton Gate rather than Clohole Gate.
- Over the winter the squirrels have been nibbling away at the waterproofing on the cabin roof and there has been some localized leakage into the cabin and damage to the ceiling at both ends, despite the valiant efforts of our secretary Peter Harrington to apply patches as holes appear. You will be pleased to hear that we are now going to tackle the problems with a more permanent solution, by installing a completely new corrugated roof over the top of the cabin, and repairing the damaged ceiling. Whilst the club is buying the new sheeting, Graeme Syme and Nigel Ward are to be thanked for organizing other materials and labour to get the job done.
- We are also going to smarten up the exterior of the club cabin by laying paving slabs in the area between our cabin and the other clubs' cabin and replacing the benching. This work will be done over the next couple of weeks, at the same time as the roof, and again with Graeme and Nigel's help. We hope this will provide a good area for members to socialize before and after their games, share triumphs and hard luck stories, and put us in a slightly better light with visiting clubs.
- Liaison meetings with the other Richmond Park Clubs (White Lodge, Putney Park, Centurions and Ruskie Hall) have been ongoing over the past 6 months. A new constitution for the "Richmond Park Association Golf Club" has been agreed and officers elected for 2008. The main purpose of the RPAGC is to be a single point of contact for the clubs in discussions with Glendale and the Royal

Parks (something that the RPA and Glendale have asked for). The chairman and treasurer positions in the RPAGC have been filled by White Lodge members and the secretary is Richard Owen. Our membership of the RPAGC will not have any effect on the membership, handicapping or running of our own club.

- We have had quite a number of new men members joining this Spring and a high percentage of last year's members re-joining. The website and personal contacts are the main sources of new members. Although numbers are pretty healthy for this time of year, because of inevitable turnover we are always on the look out for more. So we ask all members to think about their friends and see if there is anyone who would enjoy playing with us at the club. The best source of Club info for prospective members is the question and answer piece found in the 'join up' section of the club's website.

Special Message

All the club sends their best wishes for a speedy recovery to Ros Lake who is currently recuperating at the Cromwell Hospital. We look forward to seeing her back on the course as soon as possible!

GOLFING MATTERS

General

- The courses are in good condition at the moment but it's that time of year when the grass seems to grow in front of your eyes and the rough is particularly punishing. This time of year, you can also easily lose your ball in the 'first cut' if you don't keep a careful eye on where it lands. So if there is any doubt that you might not find your ball, declare and play a Provisional Ball and if you do have problems finding a ball, let the group behind through if there's a gap. We have instigated the Marshall in each group, to be responsible for keeping up with play. If you are not sure what this means, speak to the starter (managing the board) on the day.
- The onset of summer sees more members turning up to play and to ensure that we have sufficient tee times booked with Glendale, please get your name on the booking sheets in advance. Conversely if your name is down but you are unable to play, please let Paul Grand or Peter Harrington know. We will always accommodate players turning up 'on spec.' but it makes everything so much easier if we don't have to juggle too many slots on the day.
- Peter Harrington is the man to see to order your top quality Glenmuir golf shirts, jumpers, hats, windbreaks, etc, all at reasonable prices and with the club emblem. Club match colours are yellow shirts and green jumpers but you can also order clothing with a wide range of other colours. Go on, treat yourself.
- Tim Meyer, Paul Grand and Julie Smith continue to do a great job in keeping our excellent website (www.richmondparkgolfclub.org.uk) continually up to date. Both men's and ladies' results are generally posted, with a report, in the "Latest News" section within a few days of matches. The Men's Booking Sheets are also continually being updated. If you are not using the website, then you are definitely missing out.

CLUB FIXTURES AND EVENTS

- The first two Saturday club events, the Spring Mixed Foursomes and the Ladies Invitation, have already taken place. Both were excellent golfing and social occasions, well supported by members and with good weather. The next similar event is the Men's Invitation on Saturday July 12th so ladies, expect to be approached very shortly and men INVITE YOUR PREFERRED GOLFING

PARTNER NOW - WHILE STOCKS LAST! The format is American Greensomes, which is particularly popular.

- The Club Championships are coming up at the end of June. The first round will be played on the Princes Course on May 29th and the second (final) round on the Dukes on July 6th.
- All the club knockout competitions and accumulator events are in full swing. The second round of the Jubilee Trophy (the Golden Jubilee) will be played on June 15th and the Men's Grand Medal has now played 4 of the 8 rounds. Graeme Syme has established a commanding lead in the Grand Medal with some sparkling scores, but you never know who's going to win till the later rounds are played.
- We have a number of friendly club matches coming up this month, starting with the first (away) leg of the ladies' match with Mitcham on June 7th. The following pairings are playing in this leg of the match:

Jayne Maxwell and Molly Hood
Julie Smith and Doreen Dolby

Tracy Wright and Louise Williams
Ann Gardner and Lia Donath

The 2nd round home match will be taking place on Saturday 9th August - if you are interested in playing, please let Di or another member of the Ladies committee know.

- On Saturday the 21st the men play the home leg of their friendly match with Rickmansworth whilst the ladies play Amida.
- The club was knocked out of the NAPGC Clapham Common & Ellis Trophy in the first round to Wycombe Heights (on count back) and we lost 3 games to 2 in the Hawtree Trophy to Leaside. Thanks to everyone who turned out; the matches were very close and could have gone either way.
- A 5 strong ladies team participated in a 2nd round match of the White Webbs Trophy on Sunday June 1st. Hoebridge is a great home course and tricky for visiting teams - Sadly our ladies were beaten 4- 1. However Ros Gray, who is in great form, won her match convincingly! Thanks to all who participated.
- A full summary of forthcoming fixtures through June and July is given below.

Date	Men	Ladies
June 7 (Sat)		Mitcham Friendly
June 8	Summer Cup	Monthly Medal
June 14 (Sat)	Association Cup	
June 15	Golden Jubilee	
June 21 (Sat)	Rickmansworth Friendly (home)	Amida Friendly
June 22	Putney Park Open	
June 29	Club Championship Round 1	
July 6	Club Championship Round 2	
July 12 (Sat)	Men's Invitation	
July 13	Association Trophy	
July 20	Monthly Medal	Monthly Medal
July 27	Centurion Open	