

# THE RICHMOND PARK RECORDER

*A Periodical Newsletter for the Members of Richmond Park Golf Club*

**Spring 2004**

**Vol. 8 No. 1**

It is the nature of things, that they develop and change to take account of new circumstances, the Recorder is no exception. When **Tim Fox** produced the first issue, a few years ago now, (he was still a young man back then) the club only had the notice board and word of mouth as forms of communication. Now we have e-mail and of course, our splendid web site [www.richmondparkgolfclub.org.uk](http://www.richmondparkgolfclub.org.uk). We don't at present have a notice board but that's another story. **Tim Meyer** has done such a good job in setting up and updating the site that members have come to rely on the site as *the* source of information on what's happening in the club. Having created the website we are acutely conscious that it has to be kept current if members are to rely on the information it contains. Did you know that our website receives a hit, on average, every 3 minutes, that's between 175,000 and 200,000 hits a year. Quite remarkable.

This latest Recorder is therefore more streamlined than before (unlike the editor) and aims to fill the gap between word of mouth and the website. We are also aware that there are a number of members who do not have access to the internet and without a club notice board they could be a little short on accurate information regarding club business. To that end we make no apology for duplicating here, information which may also be on the website.

The recent fire in the pavilion, has of course, had a great impact on our normal Sunday operation. We are meeting in the Pro Shop to book in and to arrange the next week's games, although this is far from satisfactory. To help solve the problem we are looking at the possibility of renting or buying a small portacabin which we understand could be positioned next to Avis's temporary "coffee shop" in the car park.

In spite of these problems we are still attracting new members **John Ahad, Ronan Byrne, Glenn O'Grady, Erik Petermeijer, Adrian Wilder and Steve Peacock** have joined in recent weeks and we hope they enjoy their time with us. There are also others in the pipeline. We hope to increase our membership again this year, we are aiming for 150 members by the end of the year. So if you know someone who would like to join us point them in the direction of the website where they will find all the information they require. If however they do not have internet access ask them to phone our secretary **Peter Harrington** on 020 8998 9350

## **Annual Subscriptions**

These were due on 1<sup>st</sup> February and remain unchanged since 1998.

General membership £45.00 Senior citizen membership £22.50 (Men 65 and Ladies 60 and over on 1<sup>st</sup> Feb 2004)

Junior membership £22.50 New member joining fee £45.00

Payment may be made by cash or cheque, **made payable to RPGC**, on Sunday mornings at the park to **Dave Williams** or **Peter Harrington**. Alternatively send by post to the following address:

**Dave Williams, 2 Woodgate House, South Bank, Surbiton KT6 6DQ**

Please note that the club have a long standing rule that members must have paid their subscriptions in order to enter the qualifying rounds of the knockout competitions. These will be played on the following dates:-

**14<sup>th</sup> March - Men's Four Ball Better Ball      28<sup>th</sup> March - Mixed Foursomes      4<sup>th</sup> April - Singles KO**

## **Annual Subscriptions and the New Handicapping System**

Under the new Unified Handicapping System, that now applies to both men and ladies, there is a rule that members rejoining more than six months after the renewal date are required to complete the handicap qualification process before a handicap can be awarded.

***This means that any member rejoining after 1<sup>st</sup> August 2004 will be deemed to have a Lapsed Handicap and will not be able to play in Club competitions. They will also be obliged to complete three cards for assessment before receiving an official Club handicap.***

## **LADIES NEWS from Sheena Harrington**

'Afternoon Tea's' have not been forgotten. Monthly medals, bottles of wine and the Eclectic winner's prizes are all amassing to be distributed and with the demise of the Pavilion it is no longer a case of getting Avis to provide tea and buns. Your committee is busy tracking down an alternative venue so that we can continue our traditional get together after the second leg of the Spring Meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> April. Please note the website shows the Singles to be on the 11<sup>th</sup> April, but it has been switched with the Diamond Jubilee.

*Dave Williams*

## DINNER DANCE

The Winning Post was again the venue for our main social event of the year. The evening started with a very good meal and was followed by excellent (short) speeches by *Martin Wright* our Club Captain and *Sheena Harrington* the ladies Captain. The presentation of prizes was followed, eventually, by dancing to a live band. Thanks are due to the ladies committee who organised the Tombola sold the tickets and raised £800 for Club funds in the process.

The only disappointment of the evening was the number of prize winners who failed to turn up to collect their prizes. In fact the overall turnout of members was disappointing only 48 out of 120 attending, The other 72 missed a memorable evening, not least of which was the sight of *Toby Hunt* sporting his annual haircut.

## COMPETITION RESULTS

New members have featured heavily in the latest round of results, well done to all. The question addressed to our handicap secretary is.....How come?

### December Monthly Medal

1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Peter Harrington</b>	<b>63</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Stuart Nash</b>	<b>63</b>

### Christmas Hamper

1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Robert Urquhart</b>	<b>41 pts</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Tony Pickard</b>	<b>39 pts</b>

### Pairs Better Ball

1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Christine Stewart &amp; Gurpal Sekhon</b>	<b>45 pts</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Paul Grand &amp; Richard Owen</b>	<b>43 pts</b>

### January Monthly Medal

1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Toby Hunt</b>	<b>59</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>John Bennett</b>	<b>62</b>

### Pairs Better Ball

1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Jason Loubser &amp; Julian Ratnage</b>	<b>47 pts</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Christine Brazier &amp; Dave Lawrance</b>	<b>46 pts</b>

### February Monthly Medal

1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Tom Scarr</b>	<b>61</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Erik Petermeijer</b>	<b>62</b>

## WINTER COMPETITION RESULTS

One of our newest members, *Julian Ratnage*, has walked away with the Winter Competition. (best 3 rounds from 8) Julian had scores of 44, 44 and 35 for a total of 123 and won by 4 points from *Geoff Foreman* who scored 45, 38 and 36. **The Winter Eclectic** is played in conjunction with the Winter Comp. and is the best score on each hole played, less half handicap on the aggregate score. This year's results were:

DUKES COURSE		PRINCES COURSE	
1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Paul Grand 63</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Ian Smith 62</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Ian Smith 64</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Paul Grand 63</b>

## DARK DEEDS

News reaches me of *Jan Oliver* playing the last at Hoebridge on Jan. 5<sup>th</sup>. Apparently it was 5pm and very dark. Jan could hardly see the ball but managed to get the ball on the green in two and then holed a 30ft putt, spooky.

Moral of the story 'don't play a round with Jan in the dark'

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our AGM was a pretty tame affair this year with only 23 members, including committee, braving a very icy night to attend. *Tim Meyer* (President) chaired the proceedings. *Peter Harrington* updated the meeting on progress, or lack of it, on the proposal to build the new clubhouse at Chohole Gate. The Royal Parks Agency is still waiting for Wandsworth Council to approve access to the park from the A3. Once this is decided then tender documents can be issued to those parties interested in running the golf course operation. In the mean time, we understand, G.C.M. have been given an extension till March 2005. The new committee were elected for the year with *Toby Hunt* being the only new face for 2004. The meeting was told there would be no increase in the annual subscription.

## AWAYDAY DETAILS

*Paul Patching* has organised our next Awayday for Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May at **Littlehampton Golf Club**.

The cost will be £45 including sweep money and buffet. For further details contact Paul on 07754 545742 or see *Paul* or *Dave Williams* at the Park on Sundays or of course visit our website. Don't miss out do it now.

## Gardening Rule 1 - Weeding

The best way to make sure you are removing a weed and not a valuable plant is to pull on it. If it comes out of the ground easily, it's a valuable plant.

## QUIZ RESULT

*John Sowter* was again successful, winning the last quiz and a crisp tenner, by one point from *Paul Grand* and *Richard Owen* who each win £5. Obviously the quizzes are too easy, John scored 19/20, so the latest effort will, I hope, give you more of a problem.

## HOLE IN ONE

Congratulations to *John Bennett* who holed his 6 iron at the 9<sup>th</sup> on Dukes on Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>. The day was cold and windy but John's shot landed just short of the hole and rolled in. John said "I was very pleased with the shot, but devastated that there was no bar to buy drinks for all my new friends!!"

**Health nuts are going to feel stupid someday, lying in hospital dying of nothing.**

## FIXTURE CHANGES

When we made up the fixture list for this year, we did so thinking that the Clubs would merge in September and so our season would end in August. The merger will not now happen this year. We have also heard that a special 'Fun Run' will be held on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> June, which is the scheduled date of the second round of the Club Championship, so some re-jigging of the fixtures is due. The changes will be on the website as soon as possible.

**Have the last word - Apologise**

# THE RECORDER QUIZ

Older members will have seen this type of quiz before. All you have to do is work out what the letters mean. EG 10 DS the DS would be Downing Street. All the questions are easy if you know the answers, some are hopefully very difficult. I was thinking about giving clues, but decided against.

Cash prizes to 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Answers to Dave Williams by Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> March. Good Luck.

1. 5 Has RD on TD
2. 7 C of R
3. 20 T on DB
4. 78 C in TP
5. 1956 H I by R
6. 1851 GE
7. 21 D on D
8. 1934 PSICE
9. 600 DC in RN
10. 6 AN of C on PT
11. 4 LC
12. 6 N in OM
13. 12 GM and T
14. 90 D in RA
15. 15 M on DMC
16. 2 H on C
17. 640 A in SM
18. 19-19-19 OOVs
19. 1,852 M in NM
20. 37 P of WS

## TIE BREAK

How many Penny Black stamps were sold within six months of introduction ?

# THE RECORDER QUIZ – ANSWERS

1. Who assassinated Mahatma Gandhi ? Nathuram Godse
  2. Who won the first Malaysian Grand Prix ? Eddie Irvine
  3. After who was Barcelona named ? Hamilcar Barca (Hannibal's father)
  4. What is Turk Halil Mutlu's sport ? Weightlifting
  5. Which American actor was born Ramon Estevez in 1940 ? Martin Sheen
  6. What did Sir Arthur Wellesley have named after him ? Wellington boots
  7. Which Bond villain is played by Joseph Wiseman ? Dr. No
  8. Which was the first suspension bridge in London ? Hammersmith Bridge
  9. Who signed the 1918 armistice for the Allies ? Ferdinand Foch
  10. Who was the famous son of Jennie Jerome ? Winston Churchill
  11. Who preceded Sir Alex Ferguson as manager of Man.Utd. Ron Atkinson
  12. What was the name of Rin Tin Tin's eleven year old master ? Rusty
  13. Who wrote the book *Men Without Ties* ? Gianni Versace
  14. What is the motto of the Stock Exchange ? My word is my bond
  15. Who founded the London Library ? Thomas Carlyle
  16. What is the largest enclosed public park in Europe ? Phoenix Park Dublin
  17. Who was the first man to jump 8 feet in the high jump ? Javier Sotomayor (Cuba)
  18. In which magazine was *Oliver Twist* serialized ? *Bentley's Miscellany*
  19. How many Moons are there in our solar system ? 63
  20. What did Shakespeare's father do for a living ? Glover
- Tie Break: What year were the worlds first Traffic Lights installed ? 1868 London