

WHITSTABLE TIDINGS

**The monthly journal of Whitstable and Seasalter Golf Club
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Volume 4

Issue no.4

April 2016

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Presidents Message

I hope you have all noticed the smart new Golf Club sign. I am sure you will agree that this is a great improvement on the previous version and provides clear information for both newcomers and visitors to our course. It is sponsored by a local business and we thank all those involved for their support and generosity.

It is hoped this is the first of many such sponsorship opportunities at our club and members are urged to let the Secretary know of any local businesses who would welcome the opportunity to advertise on tee boxes throughout the course.

On Saturday 2nd April, myself and Sue together with both your Captain and Lady Captain attended the drive in for the new Captains at our neighbouring club in Chestfield. I am pleased to report that the friendship between our two clubs continues and we all look forward to club matches in the months ahead.

Earlier that same day I enjoyed the Ladies Coffee Morning which I am pleased to report was very well supported. It was good to meet the 3 Guide Dogs and their owners at the club to remind us of the excellent work these incredible animals do. They served as a welcome reminder of the Lady Captain's charity for this year and encouraged us all to put our hands in our pockets to contribute.

Now the clocks have gone forward and the weather hopefully warms up I wish you all happy golfing.

Regards

John

Captains Message

Well here we are at the start of Spring, a bit ominous as rain has closed the course, understandably, it would be more appropriate for a swimming gala at present!

Joan Sykes myself Martyn Silvertown and Pat Bensted represented the club at Wildernesse in the Captain's Cup competition and though Joan and I played well against a seemingly less able pairing we lost 4 down. Mind you considering we had to give them 7 shots on their own course the outlook was fairly predictable! Martyn and Pat suffered at the hands of a plus 2 county player and his wife off 12, who played unbelievably, chipping and holing putts from all over the place! After we had lost and play was very slow ahead we teamed up both matches and played the last 2 holes together she mishit her

shot to the 17th green to within 2 feet, which was a sample of how she had played all round according to Martyn and Pat. Ah well next year perhaps! The Sheerness match on Saturday 16th April is not currently very well subscribed so please get your names down for that, we need 10 parings to make this a great day as usual.

The meat raffle raised £170 for The Pilgrims Hospice Charity fund so thank you all for that. Another raffle has already started and will be drawn on the 3rd Sunday of April, tickets available behind the bar.

First Aid course

You will I'm sure be pleased to know that 12 members of our club volunteered to become qualified in resuscitation (CPR) and use of the defibrillator (AED), so that help should be available to any in need of that service. It was wonderful to see so many enthusiastic members puffing over dummies, brought back some memories I can tell you!

Those qualified are:- Joan Sykes, Maureen Davison, Pat Bensted, Mel Bashford, Bob Ireland, John Stokes, John Clarke, John Wegner, Alan Fowler, Dave Hodgson, Eynon Price and Steve Wood in the event of an emergency on or near the course contact one of these members without delay after first calling 999 on you mobile which should be carried at all times on the course.
Bob

Future events

St George's Day Saturday 23rd April

Gird your loins for this fantastic celebration of Englishness, an all day golf competition comprising a 9 hole medal round followed immediately by a nine hole Stableford competition, both comps run concurrently and are to different flags on each green.

The entry sheet for this is in the Foyer

The day is completed by a rousing dinner in the clubhouse, good English grub and spirited singing make this an unmissable event. Wear something red and white for the golf or more fancy dress if you want!

Speed Limit on Collingwood Road

Please note there is a 10mph speed limit on the part of Collingwood Road from the club to Nelson Road, please keep to this limit, do not antagonize our neighbours or worse - cause an accident! There are often small children and animals in the road how would you feel if you hit one?

FROM THE OFFICE

We have tidied up the trolley shed. There is still some trolleys left outside the shed awaiting proof of ownership, these will be skipped in the next week if they remain unclaimed.

Now the shed is clean and clear please keep it that way, it is a very useful facility and needs to be maintained in that condition to continue it's use.

Many thanks
John Stokes

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS
Period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017

<u>Category</u>	<u>Annual</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
FULL PLAYING	£600.00	£52.00
JOINT FULL PLAYING	£576.00	£50.00
SENIOR	£216.00	£20.00
JUNIOR UP TO 13 YEARS	£30.00	N/A
JUNIOR 14 TO 18 YEARS	£60.00	N/A
INTERMEDIATE AGE 18 TO 22	£204.00	£19.00
INTERMEDIATE AGE 23 TO 25	£300.00	£27.00
INTERMEDIATE AGE 26 TO 28	£456.00	£40.00
FLEXIBLE (UNDER PENSION AGE IN EMPLOYMENT)	£315.00	N/A
LOCKER RENTAL	£36.00	£3.00
SOCIAL	£60.00	N/A

These rates reflect a small rise, which is line with inflation - the full members annual rate last year was £576.00. Our rates remain very competitive compared with other clubs in the area, the lowest being Westgate at £725.00.

As agreed these rates are not affected by the fees that have been incurred in connection with the development project concerning the sale of land and the new clubhouse – which have been paid from reserves.

Monthly payments must be paid directly to the Club by standing order from the member's bank or building society. There is an additional charge of £2 per month to cover the additional administration costs involved.

The age categories are calculated as at 1st April 2016

Flexible membership. 2016/7

Please be advised that your booklet with your 60 tickets for each 9 holes you play are available for collection from the office or the bar.

Could you please ensure that when you play you DO fill out the relevant ticket(s) and hand in to the office or to the bar.

We do carry out checks from time to time so please can you ensure you carry your booklet with you when playing golf here at the Club. We will e mail/contact you to check that you are keeping up to date with tickets used. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the office. We hope you enjoy your golf this season !

Start sheets for competitions on the website

Rather than telephoning the bar or office we now have some start sheets on the golf club website.

If you navigate the page ABOUT US at the top you will see a new icon titled START SHEETS. Click on this to see when you are teeing off.

We have started this process for the Sunday morning competitions ,but if the relevant secretaries of sections would like to their start sheets put on the website please contact the office. You will need to give at least several days advance notice of the competition/event to make it worthwhile doing.

Changes to dates printed in the Club Diary

Sat 9th April Club v Westgate changed from March 19th

Sunday 17th April Captain v President drawn teams

Monday 18th April Old Salts v Cobtree Manor (home) am

Friday 29th April Ladies v Hythe (home) 1100hrs

Saturday 30th April Club v Hythe (away) 1330hrs

Wednesday 25th May Old Salts v Hythe (away) am changed from Monday April 4th

Monday 30th May Kent Vets v Tudor Park (home) 0900hrs

Monday 27th June Ladies Jamboree Faversham not Whitstable

Sunday 3rd July Club v Faversham (away) 1200hrs

Sunday 17th July Captain's swindle replaced by Fourball Betterball comp.

Monday 1st August Old Salts playing Hythe rather than Walmer & Kingsdown

Saturday 6th August Club v Westgate this fixture now away 1300 hrs

Sunday 14th August Captain's swindle replaced by drawn pairs Medal

Saturday 3rd September Club v Hythe (home) 1330hrs

Saturday 24th September Mixed match v Westgate pm not am

Tuesday 9th October Old Salts v Cobtree Manor (away) am

Sunday 23rd October Captain's swindle replaced by Fourball Betterball comp.

Sunday 30th October Captain's swindle replaced by Captain v President drawn pairs comp.

Now that the better weather is here and matches and events are in full swing can you please note there are a number of changes to what was printed in the Club Diary when issued in December 2015

These changes are listed on the members notice board in the lobby of the Clubhouse , next to the monthly events pages.

If you are aware of any other changes please can you contact the office. Also if you wish to change details please ensure that the office is aware just to ensure we do not get clashes of events and dates.

Trolley Shed

Many thanks to Colin Holton and John Wegner for the work they have done in recent weeks to tidy up the trolley shed .Those trolleys that have not been claimed and marked will be disposed of shortly .There are also some old golf bags that will suffer a similar fate if not claimed and taken in the next week or so.

GREEN FEES -1ST APRIL 2016 ONWARDS

NO GREEN FEES BEFORE 9.30AM WITHOUT PRE BOOKING

<u>TEE OFF TIME</u>	<u>WITHOUT A MEMBER</u>	<u>WITH A MEMBER</u>
09.30- 13.30	£25 (18 HOLES) £18 (9 HOLES)	£15 (18 HOLES) £12 (9 HOLES)
13.30- 16.00	£20 (18 HOLES) £15 (9 HOLES)	£12 (18 HOLES) £10 (9 HOLES)
16.00* ONWARDS	£12	£12

Twilight rate – irrespective of number of holes played
Time will vary by month

Notes

County card holders play at members rates

Juniors with a member £5 irrespective of time or holes played

PROPERTY DAMAGE ON AND OFF THE COURSE

We regularly get claims from our neighbours relating to damage caused by golf balls to their property. This is a significant cost to the Club as we have a £350 Excess applicable to this type of Insurance claim, and not many claims exceed this.

Recently there has been a dramatic increase in the number of claims for no obvious reasons – which have come from all sides of the course but mainly from the caravan park where there are often children playing

Please ensure that you shout fore loudly, apologise to those affected, and report every incident in the relevant book in the foyer.

There has also been a lot of damage to the course and signage by vandals in the form of local kids, we have permission from the police to take photos of any children on our property committing acts of vandalism.

Clubhouse Hire

The clubhouse can be hired by members for events such as a birthday party . First call should be with the Club Steward and /or the Office to check availability. There is a hire form that needs to be filled out (copies are available from the office) in advance of the event. Our caterers are to be used for any food requirements.

There is a charge for hire of £100.

PLEASE REPAIR ALL YOUR OWN PITCH MARKS AND DIVOTS AND OTHERS YOU SEE, PROPERLY.

MEMBERSHIP

Like most Golf Clubs we are always looking for new Members to replace those who move away or just get too old to play. Our average age is higher than most clubs, which has its effect on our membership.

We will also be offering a **£50 Incentive** to existing Members who introduce new Full Playing Members to the Club. Full details will be available soon – the incentive will be by way of a discount from the next year's subscription. There will be no limit to the number of incentives, which can be earned in any year. So introduce 10 Members for a free year!

Junior Section Captain James Green Vice Captain Oscar Bensted

Not too much to report this month except to say that the last competition was won, suitably, by our captain James, second was the vice captain, Oscar.

Then, the following Friday, the only really decent day of the Easter Holiday, the Wegner Brothers took on the said Captain and Vice Captain, in a nine hole match and the Juniors were triumphant with a win of 2 and 1. The Wegners wish it to be recorded that they won the last hole as they said 'double or nothing' and the boys refused.

Next competition April 2nd

Ladies Section Captain Joan Sykes Vice Captain Maureen Davison

Rain stopped play during the first week of March but then the second Tuesday of the month turned into a lovely morning once the early frost had melted. For the first time in a long time we managed a full 18 hole competition and completed the first medal of the year. Sally Lawson had the best round by some margin and won Division 2 with a net 72. Joyce Jaynes was second with net 83 and Val Brown third with net 85. In Division 1 Maz Garlinge was victorious with net 77 on countback from Penny Perkins with Mel Bashford third on net 80. We also held an inaugural putting competition alongside the medal which Sheila Wyles won with 32 putts. For those of us who were having shocking rounds this competition at least kept us interested to the end.

The Jubilee Foursomes, played the following week, is never an easy format but always an interesting game. Debbie Murray and Louise Tucker were winners on 32 points from Pat Bensted and Holly Butler who were second with 25.

The day of the Five Club Competition was beautiful, sunny and warm with no wind. Joan Sykes had the best round of the day and won with 31 points. Jackie Witten was second with 28 and Louise Tucker third with 26 on countback from Doreen Dale.

In the Captain's Cup competition we were drawn away at Wildernessee. Our pairings of Joan Sykes with Bob Ireland and Pat Bensted with Martyn Silverton played well on a tough course but were no match for the very strong home side who should progress far in this competition.

We were also away in the Tappin Trophy, the trio of Louise Tucker, Joan Sykes and Val Brown travelling to Broome Park on a dull, gloomy, drizzly day. 2 of the 3 had never played the course before which made things a bit tricky. Louise started to play well too late and lost on the 17th, Joan was very steady and won on the 16th which meant Val's match was the decider. It came down to the last putt on the 18th and it unfortunately didn't go our way. Close but not close enough!

We also played our first friendly team match of the season away at Westgate. There were a few close matches but they all went the Westgate way. On the plus-side we had a lovely dinner!

Sadly the Easter rains caused the course to be closed for the first Bank Holiday Greensomes and the Ladies' Yellow Ball competition the next day.

Men's Section Captain Bob Ireland Vice Captain Gary Morgan

Rob Davis finished clear winner of the Sunday Captains Swindle competition played early in March with a fabulous forty-one points. After a near perfect start, Rob finished the front nine with twenty-four points but sadly mistakes on hole fourteen spoilt Rob's card. Fred Stokes took second place ahead of Andy Selwood on count-back, after both players finished with thirty-eight points.

The first Sunday medal of the year was played in difficult conditions that prevented the sort of scores expected. Nevertheless, classy Richard Gremo ended as the outright winner with a superb net sixty-five. Derek Bates finished in second place with a net sixty-six with new boy J Dowdeswell taking third place on count-back from Neil Brown, Martyn Silverton and Ian Horton.

In the last Stableford competition of the month, Jon Whorlow finished strongly with twenty points on the back nine to finish outright winner with thirty-nine points. Dave Rigden and new member Robert Mumby also did well but had to settle for second and third place respectively after they both finished with thirty-eight points.

Old Salts Section Captain John Wegner Vice Captain Dave Atkins

The intended final game of John's Walker on 3rd March had to be postponed

due to heavy overnight rain, a friendly nine holes game was played and the best score was returned by Brian Daw with 18 points.

Thursday the 10th was again unplayable due to the severe overload of H2O which even put the 5th and 6th greens out of action (very rare !),but an indication of how wet the course was.

What a difference a week made, Thursday 17th March was a beautiful sunny , dry day which enabled John's Walker number six to be played, with the course now almost totally dry it changed the whole style of play and many players found points hard to come by.

The winner on the day was Gwyn Oakley with a tremendous 40 points, second was Rod Whitehead with 38 points and third was Desmond Barker with 35 points.

The Captains Challenge was a duel between Captain John Wegner partnered by Colin Holton against challengers Mick Wyles and John Dowle, the result was a comfortable win for the challengers by 5 and 4.

The first Old salts match of the season was played against North Foreland on the 21st March. A very enjoyable day was had by all but the result was less pleasurable as we were unable to win any of the matches.

Thursday 24th saw the playing of a drawn pairs Stableford competition. In third place were John Dowle and Brian Daw with 68 points, second place , John Wegner and Kit Ryan with 69 points but the winners with a fine score of 76 points were Roy Percival and Gwyn Oakley, Gwyn scoring 40 points for the second week in a row!! Certainly a man to watch for the future!!

Midweeker's Section Captain Ian Horton Vice Captain Don Williams

The first February competition, The Les Fussey February Cup was played the 10th of the month. The conditions were reasonable and the course in good "nick". Scoring was varied with our winner Tony Lavender coming in with a very credible 39 points. Second on 39 Alan Fowler and third Martyn Silverton 38,both very good scores, Last Peter Shearing on a dismal 21, Birdie winners, on the 6/15th Tony Lavender, Bob Ireland and Mel Bashford, the 4/13 Alan Humphries, Dave Bowman, and Martyn Silverton.

The captain challenge was a comfortable win for the challengers Martyn Silverton and David Hodgson, Bob Ireland stood in for the absent captain, our Vice Captain was reported to say "the annoying thing was Martyn kept hitting the ball a very long way and straight" (how does he do it?)

Our winner today, Tony Lavender, graciously accepted new ad-hoc trophy to much acclaim.

The report for the next competition will appear in the following Tidings

Fundraising 100 Club

1st £30 Martin Dynes
2nd £20 Peter Jaynes
3rd £10 Mike Behr

Congratulation to the winners. Please collect your prizes in person from behind the bar.

Subscriptions for 2016 are now due please pay £12 for each number you have to Steve and good luck!

What's on for the next two months?

April

Saturday 2 nd	am Ladies Spring Coffee Morning 1300hrs Juniors Medal
Sunday 3 rd	am Drawn Pairs competition
Tuesday 5 th	am Ladies Medal 1300hrs Super Seventies v Chestfield (away)
Wednesday 6 th	am Old Salts v Chestfield (away)
Thursday 7 th	am Old Salts Ken Vickers Trophy Medal Am Ladies v North Foreland(away)
Friday 8 th	0900hrs Kent Vets v Etchinghill (away)
Saturday 9 th	1300 hrs Club v Westgate (home)
Sunday 10 th	am Ex Captains Skinner Trophy am Stableford
Monday 11 th	am Old Salts v Sheerness (home)
Tuesday 12 th	am Ladies Spring Greensomes
Wednesday 13 th	1100hrs Ladies v St Augustines (away) am Midweekers P West Easter Cup Medal
Saturday 16 th	am Club v Sheerness (home)
Sunday 17 th	am Captains v Presidents drawn pairs
Monday 18 th	1230hrs Kent Vets v Canterbury (away) Am Old Salts v Cobtree Manor (away)
Tuesday 19 th	am Ladies Cancer Spoon Stableford
Friday 22 nd	am Midweekers Kenny Bills April Cup Stableford 1230hrs Ladies v Sheerness (away)
Saturday 23 rd	All day St George's Day competition and evening meal
Sunday 24 th	am Monthly Medal
Tuesday 26 th	am Ladies Competition
Thursday 28 th	am Seniors Open St Augustines
Friday 29 th	1100 hrs Ladies v Hythe (home)
Saturday 30 th	am Qualifying Medal 1300hrs Juniors Allard Cup Medal under 12's

1300hrs Juniors Comer Cup Scratch Medal
1330 hrs Match v Hythe (away)

May

Sunday 1st 0830 hrs Daily Mail Foursomes
Monday 2nd 1230 hrs Mixed greensomes
Tuesday 3rd am Ladies 4 ball betterball
1300hrs Super Seventies v Broome Park (home)
Wednesday 4th am Midweekers Ernie West Champions Trophy
Friday 6th 0900 Kent Vets v Canterbury (home)
Saturday 7th pm Mixed Match v Westgate (away)
Sunday 8th am Harry Johnson Cup
am Monthly Medal
1300 hrs Ladies Medal Winners
Tuesday 10th 0830/1330 hrs Ladies Spring Meeting
Wednesday 11th am Midweekers D Fewtrell May Madness Shield Medal
Thursday 12th am Old Salts Norman's Trophy Medal
Saturday 14th 1300 hrs Juniors Medal Winners Cup
Sunday 15th am Captain's swindle
Monday 16th am Old Salts v Westgate (home)
Tuesday 17th am Ladies Medal
Wednesday 18th am Midweekers invitation Day
Friday 20th 0830 hrs Kent Vets v Chestfield (away)
1030 hrs Ladies v Chestfield (away)
pm Super Seventies v Canterbury (away)
Sunday 22nd am Canterbury Cup 1st Round
Tuesday 24th am Ladies Competition Texas Scrambl
Thursday 26th 1330 hrs Ladies White Elephant
Saturday 28th am Qualifying Medal
1300 hrs Juniors Aspen and King Trophies
Sunday 29th am Canterbury Cup 2nd Round
Monday 30th 0900 hrs Kent Vets v Tudor Park (home)
1230 hrs Mixed Greensomes
Tuesday 31st am Ladies Pullen Trophy

Ebb and Flow (letters section)

The Editor would appreciate your comments or suggestions of ways to improve the club, magazine, web site, social activities, or anything else that comes to mind! Get writing – it's your club say what you want!

If you have any specific questions about the course please direct them to the suggestion book.

Here is a letter from Steve Suttle to the President, which you will find interesting.

Hi John

I thought that some of the members may be interested in what their Greenkeeper gets up to in his spare time.

As you may or may not know I have been a serious long distance runner for

35 years and last Saturday April 2nd I competed in the Crawley 12 hour track race. My target was 68 miles which represents the First Class Standard for my age group (55-60). I have never before achieved this standard in any rasce I have ever done, so it was quite a big ask. However I passed the 68 miles after 11 hours 45 mins and finished up with 69½ miles at the completion of 12 hours. It's fair to say that I was dead chuffed or "properly made up" as the saying goes! Mind you I didn't risk driving home afterwards 'til the next morning!

Ps I finished 5th overall in the race but the other four were considerably younger!

Well done Steve very impressive!

Jokes

Here are a few jokes from Ronnie Corbett who sadly died this month RIP Ronnie we'll never forget you!

A man was marooned on a desert island. One day a beautiful woman arrives in a wet suit. 'When did you last have a smoke?' she asks. 'Five years ago.' So she gets out a cigar and he smokes it. She unzips her wet suit a bit and says, 'When did you last have a drink?' He said, 'Five years ago.' So she gets out a bottle of Scotch and he has a drink. Then she unzips her wet suit a bit more and says, 'And when was the last time you played around?' He looks at her in amazement and says: 'You're not telling me you've got a set of golf clubs in there?'

A grandfather has gone missing after eating four cans of baked beans, two cauliflowers and a jar of gherkins. His family have made an emotional appeal for him not to come home for at least a fortnight.

For some time, my wife's had this ridiculous idea that I'm playing too much golf. Actually, it came to a head at about 11.30 last night. She suddenly shouted at me: "Golf, golf, golf. All you ever think about is bloody golf!". And I'll be honest, it frightened the life out of me. I mean, you don't expect to meet somebody on the 5th green at that time of night.

Today is our anniversary. It's just 12 years ago today when she said "I do". It certainly surprised me, because I didn't think she did.

"Thank you it's good night from me and it's good night from him"

Sudoku

Answer to last month's Sudoku

8	3	9	7	4	2	1	6	5
4	2	6	1	9	5	3	8	7
7	5	1	6	8	3	4	9	2
1	8	5	3	2	7	6	4	9
2	4	7	9	6	1	5	3	8
9	6	3	8	5	4	2	7	1
3	9	8	5	1	6	7	2	4
5	7	2	4	3	8	9	1	6
6	1	4	2	7	9	8	5	3

				4	9	1	2	
	2	4	1					5
	9							6
	1					8		2
2								3
3		6					7	
4							6	
5					7	9	3	
	6	7	8	9				

Competition

April facts

- 1/ Which annoying "door knockers" organization first started in April 1830?
- 2/ "It was a bright cold day in April and the clocks were striking thirteen" is the first sentence of which book?
- 3/ Which other month always has the same starting day as April?
- 4/ Which planet is celebrated on April 22nd?
- 5/ England and Scotland adopted something in April 1606 called what, but later changed it to something called what in 1625?
- 6/ Who's marriage lasted 1 day in April last century?

First person with all 6 right gets the £20 from Steve

March Quiz answers

This month's quiz was an alphanumeric puzzle, letters are replaced by numbers but how?

Clue AGE = 40, AGED = 10, RAGED = 21.2

Answer - convert the letters to the number of their position in the alphabet, then add the first two numbers, multiply by the third, divide by the fourth and subtract the fifth.

1/ DOM = 199 (4 + 15 x 13)

2/ DOME = 39.8 (4 + 15 x 13 / 5)

3/ DOMED = 35.8 (4 + 15 x 13 / 5 - 4)

4/ ALE = 65 (1 + 12 x 5)

5/ PALE = 40.8 (16 + 1 x 12 / 5)

6/ PALED = 36.8 (16 + 1 x 12 / 5 - 4)

Flotsam and Jetsam

Beachcomber

Castaways

If you have any unwanted clubs or equipment sell them through this Publication or the Web Site and donate 10% to the Captains Charity! Send the details to my e-mail robert.ireland@gmail.com , by post or place the details on the notice board marked for my attention.

For sale

Yonex clubs. Driver, 9, 5, 3 . Rescue club. Price £60 or £10 each.

Wilson irons: 5, 6,7,8. 9, pitching wedge and sand iron. £60 or £10 each.

Carry bag with stand £15

Contact Pat tel: 01227 905312.

Ping Irons 3 – PW 8 clubs in all, Left Handed £100 see Bill Mumford

Sue Goodall has a set of Ping Rapture clubs graphite shafts, LW, SW, PW, 9,8 and 7 irons £120.00 Contact on either 07813633730 or 01227749188