

## **WHITSTABLE TIDINGS**

**The monthly journal of Whitstable and Seasalter Golf Club  
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### **Presidents Message**

For this month's edition of the tidings I would like to welcome all the new members who have joined our special little club in the past months, together with those thinking about joining.

There are various ways of becoming a member although full membership is very good value at around £12 per week, or there is the flexible membership of £315. Please see the secretary for details of this form of membership.

We would also like to welcome you to our social events which are arranged by the hard working social committee. There is normally at least one event every month, so come along and enjoy.

For the new Men that have joined, there are two events that are not part of the weekly scheduled events by all the various sections. They are 9 hole swindles, one is Saturday lunch time so arrive around 11.30am for a chat and a get to know followed by a draw, then play begins at 12 noon. There is also a 9 hole on a Tuesday evening only in the summer months starting when summer time begins and ending in October. Just turn up and join in between 4pm - 5.30 pm. Tommy Burns has run this for as long as I can remember so well-done Tommy.

Enjoy your golf everyone.

John

### **Captains Message**

Firstly a big thanks to Mel and John for supplying a terrific quiz last Friday, I think everyone enjoyed it I certainly did despite our team coming equal second for the umpteenth time! Some great questions and an interesting addition from John, which certainly baffled me!

The course I am sure you will all agree is in great condition for the time of year, the rough being especially challenging due to the continued growth of the grass throughout the winter, perhaps a lower cut before the winter sets in would be advisable if the warm weather is to continue like this?

The entry fee for the Sunday swindle has been increased to £3 in line with inflation and to offer a better prize for the 2's competition, only two winners last week each trousering around £20!

I am looking forward to the oncoming matches with other local clubs and hope to get your support for these, notices will be going up on the Men's notice board nearer the time for these so keep a look out to not get left out!

## **Future events**

### **St Patrick's Night Friday 18th March**

Join in an evening of Irish fun, plenty of Guinness, good food, music and dancing, fancy dress optional although you must wear something green! Price £16.00 per person includes a glass of Black Velvet with your canapé starters!

### **Easter Egg Hunt**

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March From 1300hrs £3.00 per child

A great afternoon for the Kids and Grandkids, bouncy castle, and Easter Eggs galore notice is on the board so get your names in!

### **St George's Day Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 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!

## **FROM THE OFFICE**

John Stokes has taken over the day to day administration in the office and is now Club and Company Secretary. Brian Best was voted at the AGM as a Director of Club .He will be taking responsibility for Health and Safety issues and will helping with regard the land sale and new clubhouse project.

The 2016/7 subscription notices are available in the Clubhouse lobby for members to collect. The due date is 1<sup>st</sup> April and covers the period until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 .If you have a neighbour or friend who you know may not be playing in the next few weeks ,please collect and give to them ...to help our postage costs !

Thank you for your continued support of the Club.

(please make space for the subs matrix which are attached on a separate document )

At present we are tidying up the trolley shed. We would like all members who keep a trolley in the shed to identify it by way of a yellow 2015/6 membership sticker available from the office/bar/lobby and also mark your name on the trolley. We would like this done by MONDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2016.

Many thanks  
John Stokes

# CODE OF CONDUCT

CLUB MEMBERS ,THEIR GUESTS ,AND VISITORS TO THE CLUB MUST BE APPROPRIATELY AND SMARTLY DRESSED, BOTH ON THE COURSE AND IN THE CLUBHOUSE.

PROPER GOLF SHOES MUST BE WORN ON THE COURSE

TRAINERS OR SIMILAR FOOTWEAR ARE NOT ALLOWED TO BE WORN IN THE CLUBHOUSE OR ON THE COURSE. NO GOLF SHOES ARE TO BE WORN IN CARPETED AREAS OF THE CLUBHOUSE (EXCEPT FOYER) SOFT SPIKE GOLF SHOES CAN BE WORN ON THE HARDWOOD AREA WHEN ORDERING FOOD..

FOOTBALL SHIRTS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO BE WORN IN THE CLUBHOUSE OR ON THE COURSE.

SMART BLUE DENIM JEANS CAN BE WORN IN THE CLUBHOUSE, BUT NOT ON THE COURSE.

MOBILE TELEPHONES AND SIMILAR ELECTRONIC DEVICES CAN BE TAKEN ON THE COURSE- BUT FOR EMERGENCY USE ONLY.  
MOBILE TELEPHONES AND SIMILAR ELECTRONIC DEVICES SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR MAKING & RECEIVING OF VOICE CALLS IN THE CLUBHOUSE AT ANY TIME THEY CAN BE USED FOR SILENT ACCESS TO APPS. AND TEXTING. TELEPHONE CALLS CAN BE MADE AND RECEIVED IN THE CAR PARK.

NO TOBACCO SMOKING IS ALLOWED IN THE CLUBHOUSE OR AROUND THE MAIN ENTRANCE

THE UNOBTRUSIVE SMOKING OF E-CIGARETTES WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE CLUBHOUSE WHEN THE KITCHEN IS CLOSED AND NO-ONE IS EATING.

DOGS WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE CLUBHOUSE –IF THEY ARE WELL BEHAVED ON A SHORT LEASH, WHEN THE KITCHEN IS CLOSED AND NO-ONE IS EATING.

Members and guests under 18 years of age will be subject to a different code which will be set by the junior organizer

Thanks to John Wegner for supplying a quantity of excellent quality pitch mark repairers. Taken the number that have been taken by members in recent weeks, we hope they are all in your pockets to use when playing to ensure we have no unrepaired pitch marks on the greens this season!

# MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017

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

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 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016

## **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.

## **Greens Committee Meeting Notes** **10.30am Tuesday February 23<sup>rd</sup> 2016**

### **Present;**

Malcolm Kent, Steve Suttle, Seth Divine, John Rosser and John Stokes. (Copy to Captain)

### **Apologies**

None

### **Matters arising;**

Winter working update;

Upper 5<sup>th</sup> tee re turf;

6th bunker update;

Completed

Completed

Wash down legislation; 1 <sup>st</sup> March	In process. Meeting Southern Water w/c
Hire buggies reintroduction; 2 new winter mats;	Review 2 <sup>nd</sup> week in March Installed
Practice net;	Repaired (Thanks to Colin Holton)
Turf cutter;	Purchased and used
Captains bunker repair;	Completed
Non slip on bridge over ditch;	Completed (Thanks to the President)
Causeway tarmac repair.	Completed (Actioned by Andy Gremo)
Refuse dumping;	Satisfactory at present
Old machinery;	Sold to provide funds for turf cutter

### **Green Keepers Report**

#### Green Report

February 2016

#### Greens

Due to a virtually non-existent winter the greens have continued to grow steadily thus requiring mowing at a height of cut of 6mm. They are in a healthy condition with no disease issues. I will be aerating them with the slit tiner when or if we get some drier weather. The weather has been so mild most of the time that we have continued to see casting from the microscolex worms. As normal during the winter I have had to regularly repaid damage from seagulls on the 2<sup>nd</sup> green.

#### General

Bunker repairs on holes 4, 6 & 7 have been completed as has the refurbished back tee on number 5. All these areas will be back in play when the white tees go back out in March.

Worn areas around the clubhouse area have been repaired. Also a number of sink holes have been raised on holes 1,3,7 & 9 and more are planned when conditions are dry enough. Astroturf pathways have been laid through previously wet areas on the 2<sup>nd</sup> carry and to the right of the 8<sup>th</sup> green. Drainage is planned on holes 4, 5 & 8 during maintenance week in September. Once installed we intend to drain the wettest area on the 4<sup>th</sup> green plus the approach which will enable this green to be played more often in the winter wet periods in the future.

Steve Suttle

Head Greenkeeper

### **Ongoing Work**

Drainage plans 2016. After 4<sup>th</sup> green inspection and other areas we have identified 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Fairway and the green and approach at the 4<sup>th</sup>. In maintenance week the drainage contractor will install a long drain in front of the 4<sup>th</sup> 2 short lateral drains will be installed by the greens staff from the front edge of the green to the newly installed drain. A further long lateral drain will be installed into the heart of the green and connected to the new drain. This part of the work will need to be carried out in dry weather therefore a 1/2 day closure could be necessary. 26/27/28<sup>th</sup> July earmarked as suitable. All the railway fencing along the 5<sup>th</sup> will be replaced by mid-March.

### **A.O.B.**

The family of the late George Bawden have donated £100 to the club which will be used to plant more gorse between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> fairway's. New club information sign has been received and will be installed shortly. After a spate of vandalism photos have been taken of the culprits and sent to the police. Members are asked to photograph any further perpetrators and give to the secretary.

Discussion took place regarding the closure of the 1<sup>st</sup> green on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February. There were 3 areas of soft ground, 2 on the approach and 1 on the green. The green staff deemed it unsuitable for 36 people to play the green twice. More damage could have been caused leading to longer green closure. This decision forms part of the "active course management policy" used for the last 12 years.

**Next meeting will be on the Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2016.**

**PLEASE REPAIR ALL PITCH MARKS, 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**

**Ladies Section Captain Joan Sykes Vice Captain Maureen Davison**

Due to the Wintry conditions there is not much to report from the Course for the Ladies section.

Quite a few ladies headed off to play an 18 hole Stableford on the first Tuesday of the month, but as the tail-end of storm Henry hit, quite a few also headed off to the clubhouse early for a coffee and a chat in the warm. Of those who did complete 18, scores were slightly up on the previous week. Jackie Witten won Division 1 with 29 and Vilma Parrett Division 2 with 21 points on count back from Jean Hudson.

The week after only 2 intrepid souls played 18 holes in the drizzle and then the following week's Texas Scramble had to be abandoned due to fog.

We did manage to get out at the end of the month to play a 9 hole Stableford. It was carrying only because the course was so wet, but this didn't seem to bother Jackie Witten who scored a fantastic 19 points to win, Louise Tucker was second with 14.

Louise Tucker and Beryl Wingrove represented the Club at Canterbury in the next round of the Daily Mail Foursomes. They held their own at the start of the match but couldn't keep it up against a very strong, low-handicap pair from Canterbury who thoroughly deserved their win as they didn't make any mistakes.

### **Men's Section Captain Bob Ireland Vice Captain Gary Morgan**

In the Sunday Captains Swindle competition played early in February, Glenn Snook finished winner one point clear of Gary Morgan and three points clear of Kevin Stevens. In a fourball pairs competition played later in the month Glenn Snook did well again and scored forty-three points with Howard Gordon. Unfortunately this was only good enough to take second place and it was the pairing of Neil Brown and Gerry Allan that took the honours with a fantastic forty-six points, which included an eagle on hole eleven and pars galore. The father and son pairing of Paul and Dave Bowman also did well with a joint forty-three score but lost out on count-back after they only managed to score twenty points on their back nine. In the Stableford competition at the end of February Dave Bowman wasn't disappointed after he finished outright winner with forty-one points. His score put him a point clear of Andy Short who took second place whilst Howard Gordon ended in third place with thirty-nine points.

### **Old Salts Section Captain John Wegner Vice Captain Dave Atkins**

### **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 Silvertown 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 Silvertown.

The captain challenge was a comfortable win for the challengers Martyn Silvertown 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	Mary Calthrop
2nd £20	Molly Broadbent
3rd £10	Brian Wild

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?**

#### **March**

Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	am Ladies competition
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	pm Old Salts Annual Dinner
Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup>	1300hrs Juniors Medal
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup>	am Captain's swindle
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	am Ladies Medal
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup>	am Monthly Medal
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	am Ladies Jubilee Foursomes
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	am MW P Glenn March Shield Stableford
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	pm MW Annual Dinner
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup>	am Ladies v Westgate (away)
Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup>	pm Club v Westgate (away)
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup>	am Captain's swindle
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup>	am Old Salts v N Foreland
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	am Ladies 5 club Stableford
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup>	am MW J Bills Trophy Stableford
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup>	am March Hare Trophy Stableford
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup>	am Mixed Greensomes
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup>	am Ladies competition Drawn yellow ball

#### **April**

Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	am Ladies Spring Coffee Morning 1300hrs Juniors Medal
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	am Captains swindle
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	am Ladies Medal 1300hrs Super Seventies v Chestfield (away)
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	am Old Salts v Chestfield (away)
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup>	am Old Salts Ken Vickers Trophy Medal Am Ladies v North Foreland(away)

Friday 8 <sup>th</sup>	0900hrs Kent Vets v Etchinghill (away)
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	am Ex Captains Skinner Trophy am Stableford
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup>	am Old Salts v Sheerness (home)
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	am Ladies Spring Greensomes
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	1100hrs Ladies v St Augustines (away) am Midweekers P_ W Sest Easter Cup Medal
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup>	am Club v Sheerness (home)
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	am Captains swindle
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup>	1230hrs Kent Vets v Canterbury (away)
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	am Ladies Cancer Spoon Stableford
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	am Midweekers Kenny Bills April Cup Stableford 1230hrs Ladies v Sheerness (away)
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	All day St George's Day competition and evening meal
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>	am Monthly Medal
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	am Ladies Competition
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup>	am Seniors Open St Augustines
Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup>	am Qualifying Medal 1300hrs Juniors Allard Cup Medal under 12's 1300hrs Juniors Comer Cup Scratch Medal

### **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.

### **Marching on**

1. The word March does not have to do from the homonym, which means to walk deliberately. Instead, the name of the month dates back the Roman calendar. March was named for Mars, the Roman god of war.
2. March was the first month of the year until the Gregorian calendar began to be used in 1752.
3. March was called Hlyda or Lide in Old English, which is a reference to the loud winds.

4. An old proverb says, "March comes in like a lion, and goes out like a lamb," which is reference to winter ending and spring beginning. Another popular saying is "March is mad as a hare," which is a reference to the animals fighting each other.

5. People born in the beginning and middle of March are Pisces. Those born from March 21 on are Aries. Pisces are ruled by Neptune, which makes them dreamy, creative and intuitive. Aries are ruled by Mars, which makes them energetic, daring and spontaneous.

7. Aquamarine and the bloodstone are the birthstones for March. Both stones stand for courage.

8. There are different reports about the true "birth flower." Some says it's the daffodil and others say it's violet.

9. Some famous people born in March are "James Bond" actor Daniel Craig, celebrated children's author Dr. Seuss, actress Jessica Biel, teenage heartthrob Justin Bieber, actress Eva Mendes, physicist Albert Einstein, "Die Hard" star Bruce Willis, Oscar-nominee Reese Witherspoon, Lady Gaga and Grammy winner Elton John.

## **Jokes**

A man joins a Yacht Club and his new club mates inform him, "At your first team dinner as the new guy, you will have to give us a talk about sex." The evening arrives and he gives a detailed, humorous account of his sex life. When he got home, his wife asked how the evening went and not wanting to lie, but also not wanting to explain exactly what happened, he said, "Oh, I had to do a talk about yachting," his wife thought this a little peculiar as he had little or no experience of it, but said nothing more and went to sleep. The next day she bumped into one of his new clubmates at the supermarket and asked, "I heard my husband had to make a speech last night. How did it go?" His mate said smiling, 'Oh, it was excellent! Your husband is clearly very experienced!" The wife looked confused and replied to his mate, "Strange, he has only done it twice the first time he was sick as a dog and the second time his hat blew off!"

One day, a man came home and was greeted by his wife dressed in stunningly sexy lingerie. "Tie me up," she purred, "And you can do anything you want." So he tied her up and went golfing.

### Sudoku

Answer to last month's Sudoku

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

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

### Competition

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

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

- 1/ DOM = ?
- 2/ DOME = ?
- 3/ DOMED = ?

4/ ALE = ?

5/ PALE = ?

6/ PALED = ?

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

### **February Quiz answers**

This quiz features words and their antonyms each clue has an opposite, within each antonym is a three letter word.

1/ Arrive - depart par

2/ Attack - defend fen

3/ Birth - death eat

4/ Black - White hit

5/ Cautious - careless are

6/ Cheap - expensive pen

For those of you who submitted answers that were not quite there the clue is the three letter words are "within" each answer!

### **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](mailto: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