



TEE TIMES NEWS BULLETIN

Issue 169

December 14 2021

All the latest results from WBGC

IT HAS BEEN three weeks since TTNB 168 was published and, although we lost a men's Saturday stableford and Round 4 of the ladies' Winter Series when the course was closed on November 27 due to snow and the M4 Seniors Winter League match due to be played the following Monday at Sand Martins, we still have a lot to report.

Nathan keeps on track

Nathan Keep won the men's Saturday stableford played on November 20 with 41 points. Simon Brown took second place with 40 points winning on countback from Dan Bowsher.

Men's winter league under way

The men's winter league commenced on Sunday November 21 and the pairing of Michael Murphy and Aaron Rid took an early lead in the competition by winning the better ball stableford with a splendid 52 points. Chris Harris and Samuel Jubb were second on 48 while Mark Ridgill and Chris Ramsey took third spot with 47.

Christy Whelehan and Steve Fisher scored 65 points in the second round played on Sunday December 5 when they scored 65 points in the format where one player scores on the odd numbered holes and both on the even. Tony Atkins and Mark Charlton also scored 65 but were relegated on the day to second spot on countback. Jason Kendal and Steve Cox were a point behind in third place.

Jane's winter win

Jane Wilmore won Round 3 of the ladies Winter Series competition played on Tuesday November 23 with 30 points. Carol Sparvell took second spot with 28 and Helen Bell was third with 24.

Hacketts and Lees win winter waltz

It may sound like a firm of solicitors but in fact it's the team of Steve and Lewis Hackett, Lee Stocker and Lee Ruddle that won the men's waltz played on Sunday November 28 by beating John Carroll, Lee Wilkins, Carl McCartney and Chris Chard on countback after both teams had scored 81 points. Rob Griffiths, Ray Hinde, Mike Wiggins and Jim Scott scored 79 points to take third place.

Jane again

Jane Wilmore followed up her win in the Winter Series the previous week by winning the ladies' Winter Trophy stableford on Tuesday November 30 with 30 points. Renee Wheeler was second with 26 and Lyn Pell third with 23.

Liam keeps Nathan in second place

Liam Bint scored 37 points to take the men's Saturday stableford on December 4 while Nathan Keep maintained his recent run of good form to take second place on 34. Ian Miles was a point further back in third spot.

First Christmas comp

The team comprising Andy Yates, Phil George, Peter Grayson and Simon Clarke won the first Christmas competition of the year on Saturday December 4. The team scored 84 points in the mixed, team Christmas Waltz competition to win on countback from Chris Ward, Colin Howe, Craig Wighton and Stuart Murphy. Steve Cox, Jane Brackenbury, Garry Postlethwaite and Jason Kendal scored 78 to take third spot.

Another Jane but a win just the same

Jane Brackenbury won Round 5 of the ladies' Winter Series played on Saturday December 11 with 36 points. Renee Wheeler took second spot with 32 while Tina Mulford was a point further back in third place.

Stuart on Saturday

Stuart Murphy won a closely contested men's Saturday stableford on December 11 with 40 points. Christy Whelehan was a single point behind beating Ian Miles on countback to take second spot.

Rest of 2021 at WBGC

Tue 14

Ladies: Winter Series R6

Wed 15

Men and Ladies: Midweek TT Singles

Sat 18

Men and Ladies: TT Singles

Sun 19

Men and Ladies: Turkey Trot Team
Captain's Drive-in (15:30)



Ladies at lunch - see Page 2

Paul Brett to join WBGC

ALTHOUGH saddened to announce in our last issue of the impending departure of our long-standing head greenkeeper, Patrick Whelehan, in this issue we offer a warm welcome to his replacement, Paul Brett, who joins WBGC on December 20. Paul started his career at The Springs Golf Club in 1997 while the course was under construction. Throughout 25 years at The Springs he has worked at all levels including a three-year period as general manager during which time he oversaw the sale of the club in 2017. After this he refocused his efforts on to greenkeeping and has this year been announced as International Master Greenkeeper 87. Readers who would like more information

on this can check it out at: www.bigga.org.uk.

During his time at The Springs, Paul has overseen many improvements including a full irrigation system, bunker rebuild and green and tee construction. Within the past couple of years, he has helped the club achieve GEO certified status and it was a Golf Environment Awards finalist.

Paul added: "I would like to thank Patrick for all his hard work up to this point and I'm really looking forward to working with everyone at WBGC." In addition, Paul has expressed his intention to communicate all future progress on the course through social media and TTNB. Watch this space!



Paul Brett

Making a fist of it

I HAVE NO wish to be socially, politically or factually incorrect, but I believe that we owe to our American cousins a wide range of intricate, high-speed handshakes that most of us can barely follow visually let alone repeat.

However, thanks to Covid, golfers of all ages and degrees of manual dexterity have established a new handshake that, although somewhat more sedate than those you will see on TV, has a gentle complexity that I think will pass into history.

I'm not sure what it should be called, but I have given it the working title of the 'knuckpalm roll' and I bet you have all done your version of it. It is derived from the fact that after the lockdowns some golfers reverted to the conventional handshake rather than the fist-pump sooner than others.

The 'knuckpalm roll' occurs when one golfer offers a palm and the other a knuckle. Then, with the words of congratulation or commiseration yet to be completed, both golfers are suddenly aware that they are not offering the same part of the hand and realise that union can never be made. Then, in haste, they try to modify the presentation only to discover the other party is doing the same and it is now too late and the inevitable clash of areas of flesh that can never be successfully conjoined is complete. A last-minute, post-contact, adjustment may be made in an attempt to grab something to hang on to, but the moment is gone.

That ladies and gentlemen is the 'knuckpalm roll'. If you haven't tried it, you will.

Dave Ware

Gone to lunch

THE TRADITIONAL eight-hole competition may have been cancelled due to the inclement weather forecast but the ladies' Christmas lunch was a great success, nonetheless. The normal excellent fare from Foxes Catering was accompanied by a picture and dingbats quiz, followed by a distribution of Secret Santa gifts.

A special event involved a presentation to Sue Smallbone with a gift to say thank you from all the ladies that she has served so well for so long before she retires at the end of the year.

As always, the ladies were entertained by the celebrated singing group, the Vee Gees, that comprises vocalists Martin Neville, Chris Capel, Alan Harding, Mike Sparvell and Kevin Forder aided and abetted by James Hirst on the piano. Those lucky enough to be in the audience used extravagant adjectival phrases such as: 'an amazing performance' and 'hugely popular' but that's quite enough of that nonsense – it will quite go to their heads!

It sounds like the ladies had a great time. Well-done!



A farewell gift for Sue