

Captains Log January 2020

Hello everyone, welcome to not just a New Year but a new decade!

Well this month started off just as we left it in December, rain followed by more rain and then more rain.

I and other long-standing members of the club can't remember seeing the course as sodden and having to be closed for so many days, hugely disappointing for all of us, but, we can and should consider ourselves very lucky.

So many local courses to us have suffered much worse than we have, some have had carry only for weeks and provided fairway mats for all to carry with them for each shot, others have been closed for several weeks much to the annoyance of so many of their members.

But back to Shortlands, we ran a social media and web campaign to promote and publicise a winter warmer offer over the first three months of this year and I'm pleased to report that we have had several players take up this offer and are enjoying playing the course and taking full advantage of the social side of the club too.

I played in the January medal and fared OK, but my winter foursomes match had to be pushed back to the first week in February as the day we elected to play the course had temporary greens and a severe ground frost which meant the conditions weren't suitable.

I played in the Antiquarians scramble last week and enjoyed my round with three good friends and we came a satisfying fourth.

My first board meeting took place in the early part of the month, and this was very insightful, it gave me a much better understanding of where the club is heading across all areas and sections.

I have re-joined the regular weekly swindle and the guys who play in this busy group are a pleasure to play with.

On the 5th January I went along to support the new Captain at Eltham Warren, Lewis Seager, at his immensely enjoyable drive in. My wife and I felt very proud to represent our club and together with the other visiting Captains, we ensured Lewis's special day was one to remember, as it should be.

During the day, I spoke with the new Captain at Shooters Hill Golf Club, Bob Simpson, and we are in the process of putting together an annual match between our two clubs, the first being at Shortlands in the spring, so watch the notice board for more details as and when this gets finalised.

I attended the 2018/19 Captains, Phil Charnley, prize giving evening on the 25th and was delighted to see so many of the clubs winners present, the entire

evening was a great success where all our champions received the recognition they so thoroughly deserved as well as getting Their hands on the clubs trophies and prizes.

Thanks must go out to the evening's master of ceremonies, Keith Fuller, ably assisted by Mark Duncan, who did a great job.

Looking ahead, I have the clubs medal this Sunday to play in, and again am delighted to be providing the prizes for the two nearest the pin competition winners.

Then its off to a burns night ball with the Dartford Captain and then can't wait to attend our own clubs Valentines Ball which is always a great night.

If you are attending, I'll see you there, I'm providing wine for the tables, so come along and enjoy ;there ate still a few tickets remaining for the 15th of Feb ball.

Have a great February.