

Captains Log - February

Another busy month with plenty of club functions and social engagements, but sadly, not enough golf due to the appalling weather we are all experiencing.

I attended and played in the inaugural Valentines captains match between 8 of our affiliate clubs held at Bexleyheath on Friday 14th.

Myself, Dave Collen, Phil Charnley and Ian Mann gave a good account of ourselves on a blustery day on this most unusual of golf course layouts. It was a great success with Bexleyheath's team winning the match, home advantage and all that. I understand this will be an annual event and we look forward to returning to Bexleyheath.

The clubs Valentines Ball went very well, the act, Tom McCarthy, was extremely good, everyone present gave me great feedback and Christine Bryan and Cathy Cotton that run the clubs social activities did a great job with the room assisted by our Lady Captain Barbara Coward.

There were 64 were in attendance, the night was a huge success and coverage was quickly up on our social media platforms and the web site the morning after.

I once again ensured that wine was on every table with the Captains Compliments and held a charity raffle, which bought in a further £200 to my club/charity fund.

The total now stands as of three months at £1700, a huge thank you to all who have helped and kindly made donations and spent their hard earned money through the various raffles etc., it means a great deal.

I joined the social team meeting mid month with Ian Mann and they confirmed they had booked an act for the autumn ball, a new and dynamic Motown act, and also booked Jack Saxer for the NYE party, he went down so well last year and is clearly the act everyone is after, so we are delighted to have him back with us.

A full social plan for the year is now in place, please try your best to support these activities and events, I know you'll have a great time, and bear in mind just how much work goes in to the organisation too.

I attended the Cherry Lodge Dinner Dance over the weekend of the 22nd, which was held at the Warren. A great event, where I was proud to represent our club as Captain along with my wonderful wife Tracy and hook up with the Captains past and present from our local clubs.

I am attending the BexleyHeath Dinner Dance on the 14th March, so sadly cannot attend the St Patricks night event the social team have arranged.

I have been asked to respond on behalf of the visiting Captains at Bexleyheath Dinner Dance, which I have accepted.

I have organised with the captain of Shooters hill, a new annual Captains Invitational tournament, which will be held firstly at our club then alternate between the two.

I have purchased a trophy, which I will present to the winning team. This will then be used each year and retained by the victors.

The match is booked for the Thursday 28th May starting early, then finishing early afternoon in order for us to have lunch and drinks and celebrate our victory.

I shall be selecting the team over the coming weeks.

I am working with Peter Hookham to ensure the night golf in March is a success, promotion for this went up over recently and we already have 20 players.

I have designed the poster and had this printed locally; this has been placed in reception and other areas, the menu has been planned to offer all players a choice of hot chilli or a chicken curry, and the winner will receive a new trophy.

I am looking at starting our membership marketing drive in the early part of March across all forms of media. This new membership drive will run for three months and support the clubs open day which has been moved to the Sunday 19th of April. (Make a note in your diary, please come along and support the club)

I have been working with Robin Pellett, Captain of the Antiquarians, re the Bromley Mayoral Golf Match, which we will be hosting at Shortlands on Friday 15th May.

We will be playing a ten-person team, (including two ladies) against their team.

I have put up prizes for nearest the pin and nearest the white line drives and Robin has sorted the menu. Cost of entry is £20 per head. Robin will be selecting the team and the day looks very promising indeed. My thanks go out to Robin for all his efforts re this event.

I have written to Newsquest and invited them to attend and cover the event for their local papers.

Looking ahead, I have begun work on the St Georges day competition. I have purchased accessories for each of my mixed St Georges Day team. The promotional flyer is ready and I have bought a trophy befitting the occasion, which will be presented to the winning team and used year after year.

I have decided to start the day later than last year at 12pm, with a shotgun start. The idea would be to ensure dinner starts later and a disco follows encouraging people who aren't playing to attend in the evening and join in the celebrations and fun.

The price per head to play and eat will be £20.00 per person; for those attending the evening function only, a charge of £15.00 per person will go towards the cost of the buffet/disco.

Promotion for the event will commence early march, a good four weeks prior to the event itself.

I have set a date for my Charity Day, Saturday August 1st. This will be an 18-hole mixed competition, followed by supper and a disco. I have already begun talks with many friends and clients to garner their support. I am proposing to get each of the 10 holes sponsored by local businesses at £50 per hole. Two have already been sold.

Liam Smith from Bexleyheath has kindly agreed to compere the auction and evening and Roger Hills from Eltham Warren has also kindly agreed to do an act. I have loads of work to do on this and already have over 20 people who have registered their commitment to attend and play.

We will be auctioning many items throughout the evening and of course we will be auctioning karaoke performances by members and friends.

I played in the Antiquarians three ball match on the 26th with Gwynn Hodges and Dave Collen, we had a most enjoyable round of golf, and our score of 73 points was the best of the day and we accordingly won the competition receiving each a bottle of wine, a pocket full of cash and we left with huge smiles. Thanks go out to Steve Dolby and all in the Antiquarians section for laying on a super day, again, a golf day with a difference, well done guys.

Saturday night, the 29th of Feb, its leap year, so what better way to finish the month than at the club listening to the sounds of our own Pete Cunningham and his team.

Spring is nearly on its way, lets hope the weather improves and we can get back to playing golf on a more regular basis one and all.

See you on the course!

