

# GreenMeadow News

## May 2020 Edition



# CLUB UPDATE

As everyone knows on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March the government announced a lockdown of the whole country due the corona virus. This has affected everyone in different ways and hasn't been easy for anyone. At Greenmeadow the clubhouse has been closed but the greenkeepers are luckily allowed to carry out 'essential maintenance'. Work on the course has progressed during April due to the excellent weather conditions. Unfortunately us golfers are unable to benefit from their efforts.

The competition committee have a plan in place to try and salvage the season when we are allowed to continue playing.

Whilst all team golf appears to be lost this year we will attempt to play all of our 'board events' and hopefully the Strokeplay, Club Championship and Badman Cup. These plans are obviously very much dependent on when we are allowed to return to the course.

In the meantime meet your 2020 Captain and Ladies Captain,  
Neil Pardoe and Marilyn Smith.



*N. Pardoe  
Club Captain 2020 - 21*



*M. Smith  
Ladies' Captain 2020 -21*

## Captains Message

Fellow Golfers, I hope that you are all staying safe and well? I thought that I would take this opportunity to let you know how my Captaincy is going. Well!

Nothing has happened...

No Captain's Drive In. No Yard of ale (phew!).

Basically, no golf, no functions since I have taken over the role. I have missed meeting up with everyone, both on and off the course.

The weather last month had been fantastic, unfortunately we were unable to play any golf or socialize.

I do know Peter and his staff have been working tirelessly on the course to get it in tip top condition the moment we are given the 'green light' to play.

I have viewed a number of ingenious and humorous ways of practicing golf drills on Twitter. Myself as you may be aware attempting the Captain's Drive in my garden, I received some comments about this 'yard of ale'.

I have recently read on the R&A website that ..."The R&A has been working with a range of bodies to develop guidance on how golf could be played in the U.K. when the government decides it is safe to begin lifting the current restrictions".

I am sure that Bernard Crane (Secretary), and John Woods (Handicap secretary), will have an eye on all eventualities as well as yourselves.

Like everyone I am looking forward to playing again. I hope that everyone stays safe and healthy over the coming weeks. I am sure Greenmeadow Golf Club can rely on your support over this difficult time.

Neil Pardoe. Captain Greenmeadow Golf Club 2020

Here are a few golf questions to keep you going:

Q1. How many times has a European golfer won the U.S. Masters?

Q2. Where was the first Open played?

Q3. Who was the first non-American to win The Masters?

Q4. Can you name four famous left-handed players who have won a Major?

Q5. Where was this year's Open Championship scheduled to be played?

## Charity Update

As expected, not a great deal to report on our efforts to raise funds for our Club Charity, Ty Hafan, but we have managed to raise a few funds.

We managed to sell around £60 worth of Easter Raffle tickets before the enforced lockdown. Obviously I couldn't carry out the draw as planned on Easter Saturday, as I wouldn't have been able to deliver the prizes. So I decided that the best option was to roll over the tickets purchased to the Christmas Raffle. So if you bought a ticket, it will automatically be included in the Christmas Raffle. We are still working our way through the Easter Eggs - tough job, but someone has to do it!

One of our Senior Section members generously donated £100 to the charity and this has been sent off to Ty Hafan.

Hopefully, we will get back on the golf course soon and resume our efforts to raise the much needed funds for the wonderful charity.

Lyn Thomas  
Club President

## Seniors Section

Life since the Government's announcement of a total lock-down on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March has put a sudden halt to the planned 2020 season with events within the club, and fixtures with other clubs, having to be cancelled.

The AGM was probably the last major event with George Cook taking over as Captain for the season and Allan Jones being nominated as the Vice-Captain. Allan being an ever present team member last season in the inter club matches.

The committee for the coming season is as follows:

Secretary: Mostyn Jones

Treasurer: Lyn Thomas

Past Captain: Yoan Price

Fixtures Secretary: Griff Williams

Handicap Secretary: Bernard Crane

Elected members: Graham Taylor

Brian Davies

Wayne Ford

Mike Hanner

Peter Fairbrother

It is hoped that we can begin our season as soon as possible. The committee will endeavor to rescue as much of the season once things become clearer. The planned Seniors Away Day on the 15<sup>th</sup> April had to be cancelled due to the lockdown, the committee will look at an alternative in due course. The Seniors Tour to Telford Golf Club is still pending dependent on the on-going measures.

An update to senior members will be given at the earliest opportunity. The Annual Seniors Dinner Dance (scheduled for 24<sup>th</sup> April) will also be rescheduled as soon as we are able to. The Seniors Captain urges you all to remain safe and is looking forward to competing with you again on Tuesday and Thursday as soon as possible.

# Halletts 2019



The team at Wenvoe prior to the match against Pontypridd and later ready for their meal afterwards.

The Halletts team matches involve ANY PLAYER with a current club handicap of 17.5 or over.

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the squad should look out for the posters in the corridor downstairs entering their name and contact details. A team consists of 8 players however a much larger squad is required to fulfill our commitments as many players will not be able to play in every match.

## **A note from Captain Max**

I would like to issue a personal thanks to all who played this season. It was a pleasure managing our Halletts Team in 2019. I am handing over the reins to Ex Club Captain Steve Browning for 2020 and look forward to assisting him in the future.

## **Semi-Final Halletts Plate**

We were drawn against Mountain Ash in the semi at their place. This is a hard place to go, but we won in the very tight match, coming down to the wire, with George Cook and Club Captain closing out the match for a draw thus taking us through to the final

## **Final at Wenvoe Castle GC**

**V's**

## **Pontypridd Golf Club**

Another tough match, but the team was buoyed by our semi-final victory. However we weren't able to replicate our form at Mountain Ash, losing 3-1.

## Other News

### New Handicap system

As you may know on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of November 2020 the new WORLD HANDICAP SYSTEM (WHS) is being introduced in the UK. This system has been introduced to produce fairer handicaps for all golfers. Your HANDICAP INDEX (old handicap) will be based on the best 8 out of your last 20 scores.

When playing at any golf course before you play you will be required to check your handicap index against the slope index of the tees that you are playing off to arrive at a competition handicap. For people that have played overseas this is a familiar process. The slope index for the white, yellow and red tees will be posted at our course later in the year.

This is a 'very brief' highlight of the new system, further information will be posted on the notice boards nearer the start date in November.

### Gwent Golf Union

The Gwent Golf Union has cancelled all matches scheduled for 2020. The Cock of the North finals day is to be reviewed on the 28<sup>th</sup> of May.

### VE Day 75

The club was planning to support this event on Saturday the 9<sup>th</sup> of May however due to the current situation it was cancelled. It is our intention to look for a suitable date to reschedule it later in the year.

## Blast from the Past



### GREENMEADOW GOLFERS' SUPPORT GURKHA CHARITY

In 2008 members of *Greenmeadow Golf Club* travelled to Northern Ireland to play in a fundraising event in aid of the *Gurkha Welfare Trust*. The competition at *Galgorm Golf and Country Club*, north of Belfast, was established in 1999 by *George Cook*, who lived in Northern Ireland before moving to Wales, the *Greenmeadow* golfers have attended for the past two years.

Two teams entered the competition and finished in very credible positions despite fierce competition. The teams were *Bernard and Kristian Crane*, *Mike Hanner*, *Nigel Smith*, *Paul Williams*, *Jason Always*, *Brian Bradley* and *Richard Nightingale*. The Party after the matches was the stuff of legend as the team were billeted in the famous *Galgorm* haunted castle.