



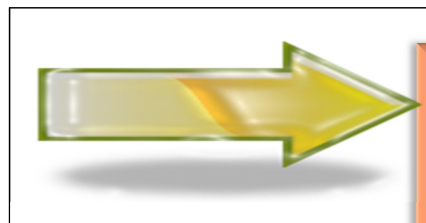
The Golf Club of Kirkcudbright

March News.
2013

Contributions for April News to
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BRINGING YOU CLUB INFORMATION

GOLFALOTTO



Just before the AGM, the club launched its lottery scheme. Members pay in £3 per month, and 50% of the incoming money is paid out in prizes. The scheme is to run for 5 years, and it was hoped that 100 tickets would be sold. To date, the number sold has reached the excellent total of 128. This means that the club can expect to receive a boost to its funds of £11,520 over the 5 years.

- The prizes based on these figures are.**
- 1)£64 payable every month for the 5 years,**
 - 2)£960 payable at the end of each of the first 4 years,**
 - 3)£3,840 payable at the end of the fifth year.**

The yearend draws are to be done at the AGM, and the monthly ones at an appropriate prize-giving. Three of the draws have already been drawn, and the December winner was Alex Flint, the January winner was Margaret Shamash, and the February winner was Andy Craven. The names of all winners will be posted on the club notice board.

YOU CAN STILL JOIN
Application forms and details are available from the office, or from Donald Shamash

Opening Day Sunday 31st March
Will you be there?



Club Captain Bill Roff

Sadly I have to start this month with the news that Derek Braithwaite, a longtime member and stalwart of the EGGs died on Thursday 12th of February after a long illness. Derek was always full of fun in the clubhouse and a fierce competitor on the course he will be greatly missed.

Those of us, who have been playing during the winter, have seen the work that has been done to improve both, the overall "look" of the course and the playing surfaces. The benefits are starting to really be seen, so well done "Greens Team" and also "a thanks" to the members who gave their time when asked.

After all the hard work we had a setback on the ninth, the upper ponds overflowed as a result of the recent snow melting and covered the green in silt. This was disappointing and may require the temporary green to be used until both the "big" green is brought back to condition and implementation of Johns plan to minimize this risk in the future. All that said if we get reasonable weather from now the course will be in great condition for the season. So tell your friends.

Report from Head Green Keeper

John Houston

I thought it would be a good idea to provide information on some of the work that is involved in the maintenance of Kirkcudbright golf course. This is to assist the member's knowledge and information on what is taking place on the course.

The R and A provides a good model to sustaining a golf course. (The Royal and Ancient).

Main winter work progress.

1. The alteration to the back of the 7th green has vastly reduced the volume of surface water onto the putting surface. The bare soil area is still to be prepped for seeding and should take place over the next few weeks, providing the soil conditions are right - this area will be slow to germinate seed. The improvement of the putting surface cannot be credited solely to the re-shaping work alone - it should be viewed as a combination of adding soil amendments (Axis) and the high standard of topdressing applied to increase the soil temperature of the green rootzone.
2. Stone work and clearance at the 9th has opened up the green and approach encouraging light and air movement into this area. The old dyke is being reworked and a cairn has been built as a feature which is on the line of play from most of the 9th tees. This will hopefully act as a good marker.
3. The 14th bunker has been re-developed and is a lot more manageable in its design. It is now awaiting being lined and sanded.
4. Construction of a mark2 pond scraper is well underway. Mark1 proved successful on the 9th pond at moving silt and pulling pond weed.

Winter maintenance



Top Picture is head green-keeper John working on the dyke behind the ninth green. The ninth hole has now been revamped with walling at the pond and at the lateral water hazard. The pond has also been cleaned to allow better flow of water, but not completely, to allow for environmental recovery and sustainability. Great care is taken to encourage all types of wild life.

Bottom picture is Klaus, chewing the fat with Billy Campbell. Hard work, laying a new surface on the path next to the 5th Tee.



Lady Captain Janet Roff

I have been asked by many of the Bridge players to pass on their thanks for a most enjoyable evening, both in the organization and the abundance of food. The evening raised £565 towards our funds, well done. Thanks to everyone involved from those who donated the prizes, raffle prizes and food to our 'waitresses' who did a splendid job in making it such a successful night.

We are all geared up for the start of the season and kick off with our Past Captains Lunch on the 23rd. We 'Welcome Back' our ladies the following day and look forward to seeing everyone who we missed over the winter. We have also received our annual Invitation to join the ladies of Gatehouse on the 22nd for golf and lunch. Keep an eye on the Notice Boards where you will find all the information needed for all the events.

The Club Opening Day is on 31st March and I urge all to come along and join in the fun to start off the Season. The children so look forward to showing off their skills and having a chance to play with the 'oldies'.

Have a great season and I look forward to welcoming you all back.

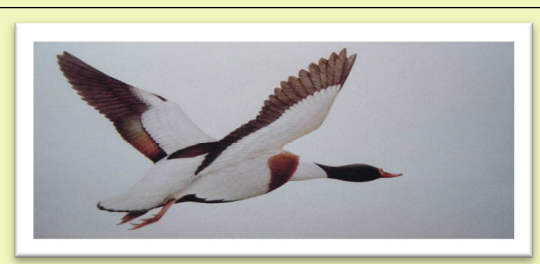
Walk on the wild side.



All over our Golf Course we have wild life. Whither its birds, rodents, deer, foxes, or escapees from the wild life park, it is our duty to protect and encourage and those who use the land.

Tell us what you have seen. You will have heard the Woodpecker drilling away at the 5th or seen the resident Pheasant at the 14th. If you are up early you may see the fox at the 7th.

We have during the year Shell Duck, Lizards, Partridge, only to mention a few. Keep your eyes open and carry a camera. Look out for the first wild Orchids or real Harebells.



Your Section.

I was asked last year if we had a dress code, as one of our members duly dressed in a football shirt and distressed jeans pulled a trolley across the front of the 5th green.

It reminded me of a time when I played a "posh" course in the central belt and I asked about the dress code. The snooty secretary informed me that gentlemen know how to dress.

That put me in my place!

I am sure none of us would pull a trolley across a tee or green and equally no matter what we wear the last thing we want is some old f... telling us what to wear.

It is just common sense, wither you are playing bowls or football or golf, to dress appropriately; whither you are a junior, Lady or Gentleman member.

Opening Day.

It is hoped you will play on opening day. The day will be revamped. So put the date in your diary.

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Report Burns Supper.

Now to our tale, one Friday night (22nd February).

There was boggles about, (40 to be precise). There were bonny lassies and well the rest of us. The Piper blew and the speeches were rare. Well done to the staff, nae grey mare f' Tesco, just lots of wild Haggis. A few were unca fu', nae sair heeds just lots of fun.

Well done to all who performed and laughed the night away.

Know your rules

Hazards.

Water and Bunkers!!!!



It may be a blessing that we do not have the burden of an official referee following us around the golf course. Yet you do need to know the basic rules.

Our course is not unique, but the following tries to help at specific areas of our golf course.

Water, ponds and burns.

If it is a Hazard the water will be marked with Yellow or RED stakes.

Remember bridges with water running or still under the bridge is part of the Hazard. Do not ground your club in the water or on a bridge.

YELLOW STAKES

If a ball is found in the water hazard or if it is known or virtually certain that a ball that has not been found is in the water hazard (whether the ball lies in water or not), the player may under penalty of one stroke:

a. Proceed under the stroke and distance provision of Rule 27-1 by playing a ball as nearly as possible at the spot from which the original ball was last played (see Rule 20-5); or

b. Drop a ball behind the water hazard, keeping the point at which the original ball last crossed the margin of the water hazard directly between the hole and the spot on which the ball is dropped, with no limit to how far behind the water hazard the ball may be dropped.

When proceeding under this Rule, the player may lift and clean his ball or substitute a ball.

RED STAKES

As additional options available only if the ball last crossed the margin of a lateral water hazard, drop a ball outside the water hazard within two club-lengths of and not nearer the hole than (i) the point where the original ball last crossed the margin of the water hazard or (ii) a point on the opposite margin of the water hazard equidistant from the hole.

When proceeding under this Rule, the player may lift and clean his ball or substitute a ball.

Playing our 9th hole.

Yellow Stakes

If your ball is in the Pond i.e. you saw the splash or another player saw the splash or you can see your ball in the water. You either replay the shot or drop a ball near the pond keeping the pond between you and the hole. You count all the shots you played plus one penalty shot.

Playing the 9th hole

Red Stakes

The burn on the right of the 9th fairway is Lateral (Red Stakes). If your ball lies within the Red Stakes you may drop the ball on either side of the burn. Again count all your shots plus one penalty shot.

Remember!

The Hazard is defined by the Stakes. You may be on grass and still technically in the Hazard, so if you are going to play the ball as it lies without a penalty, do not ground your club. Also if the ball is in the water you may wish to play the ball, again do not touch the water with your club, before you make your stroke.

Playing the 11th Hole

Again a Pond which has Yellow Stakes and to the left a burn which has Red Stakes and then Yellow Stakes.

Same rules as the 9th.

You cannot assume that your ball is in the water. The wording is >>>

KNOWN OR VIRTUALLY CERTAIN.

Therefore if you play a blind shot and then cannot find your ball it could be lost out-with the Hazard. In that case it is a lost ball and must be replayed, under penalty.

One last thing!!

The water may look shallow, but the mud is 3feet deep in parts. Stay out of the ponds.