



Bramhall Golf Club Ladies Newsletter

WELCOME TO THE WINTER 2016 NEWSLETTER



May I take this opportunity of wishing a belated happy and healthy New Year to all our readers. (Ed.)

MESSAGE FROM THE LADY CAPTAIN



Lady Captain 2016 - Maggie Lee

I am honoured and proud to be the 2016 Lady Captain of The Bramhall Golf Club. I should like to thank you for your cards, gifts and messages of support. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Past Lady Captains Committee for selecting me as Lady Captain. However, I hope that they are now not regretting this decision

following my amazing 33 yard drive on Sunday. In mitigation I should point out that I am not yet fully recovered from my recent foot surgery and also, I have never professed to be a golfer!! Fortunately, I have the whole of the season ahead to retrieve my golfing reputation!

The Golf Club Charity this year is the North West Air Ambulance. This is something that could affect any of us or our families and friends. With running cost over £6 million a year, I hope you will view this as a very worthwhile Charity to support. The bunker and pond on the 4th hole will remain as donating areas. (Following my Drive In, I suspect I can probably raise the £6 million all on my own).

In order to improve high handicap golfers it is important that they play competitively with lower handicappers. To that end, I would ask that this year we all try, at least one Thursday, to sign up with someone who we would not usually play with.

I look forward to playing with as many of you as possible my partners sign-up sheet is on the Competition notice board Please do sign up - I look forward to playing with as many ladies as possible.

I wish you all a happy and successful year of golf and social events.

Maggie Lee
Lady Captain

At the Drive in Lady Captain, hit her drive ~~330~~ - oops Typing error! - 33 Yards. But it was the only **straight** one! The winner of the sweep was Mikey

Ashley the retiring Junior Captain.
Georgie Day the new Junior Captain
drove 192 yards outdriving both the
Captain and The President. Terrific
Georgie - well done!



Lady Captain hits her STRAIGHT Drive

LADY CAPTAINS TUESDAY ROLL-UP

Lady Captain is organizing a Tuesday morning Roll-Up. A good chance to meet socially with friends and to practice the golf ready for Thursday. A pound a round - you didn't know I was a poet did you! Winner gets 60%, runner up 40%. Draw at 9:30am commencing at 9:45am.

The dates for these are, (weather permitting) as follows:

Tuesday 16th February

Tuesday 1st March

Tuesday 15th March

Tuesday 29th March

Tuesday 12th April

Tuesday 26th April

Put these dates in your diary now and we hope to see as many as possible joining us.

MESSAGE FROM OUR RETIRING LADY CAPTAIN

Thank you to every one for giving me a good year, and I would like to wish

Margaret Lee and her committee all the very best for the coming year

My main reason for writing this article is to pay tribute to the great job Captain Mel Ince is doing in taking on the mantle of Captain for another year. We have had to cope with the untimely death of our Vice Captain Stuart Clegg and our end of year celebrations have been tinged with sadness, but Mel has stepped into the breach with sympathy, understanding and a great deal of strength.

Last Monday the golf club became the venue for Stuart's Memorial Celebration, Captain Mel produced a perfect Eulogy, it was personal, warm and the little bits of humour that were intertwined within the words captured all hearts.

I am sure that in the coming months Mel will continue to do a sterling job and I urge every single member to make a positive resolution to help him in whatever way they can.

I also hope you will care and watch over our very brave Helen, who stalwartly organised the Memorial day and then went full steam ahead to organise the Ladies Annual Meeting, faultlessly. I think I can speak for us all when I say we are full of admiration and gratitude to you both

Let's all pull together and have a great 2016.



Retiring Lady Captain, Jacquie & David



As you all know, Lady Captain, The Captain and The President had a combined Club Charity for 2015 - Whizz Kidz. Ruth Madeley, who was recently presented with the cheque, was born with spina-bifida and received her first wheelchair when she was five years old. She spoke about how her life had been turned around and she now works as a Fund Raising Coordinator for Whizz Kidz. She said 'getting my first wheelchair was like being handed a life.' The generosity of members and friends has been overwhelming and the Captain, President and Lady Captain are extremely grateful for all the support given to them. The money raised will be used in the North West area.

A cheque for £16022.78 was handed over to Ruth on Thursday 27th January 2016.



Ruth receiving the cheque for £16022.78 from The Captain) watched by Lady Captain and Geoff Madeley (Ruth's' Father).

2016 CLUB CHARITY



In accordance with the wishes of Stuart Clegg, the 2016 Charity is to be The North West Air Ambulance. Lady Captain, The Captain and The President are delighted to endorse this and we hope you will give your full support. Gillian Edwards from the N.W.A.A. visited the Club on the day of The Drive-In and gave us an insight into the wonderful work they do. More details can be found by visiting www.nwaa.net

LADY VICE-CAPTAIN



Lady Vice Captain - Frances Gell

Our new Lady Vice-Captain is Frances Gell. Frances and her husband, Graham have been members of the Golf Club for many years. Frances has served on the Committee most recently taking on the role of Assistant Match Secretary. She has also served as Fixture Secretary on the Cheshire Ladies Executive Committee for 3 years. Frances also plays Bridge. Frances is a quiet (?) unassuming (?) person with a lively personality and I know she will support our Lady Captain wholeheartedly. Congratulations Frances.

YELLOW BALL COMPETITION

On 3rd December we held a Yellow Ball Competition followed by lunch and

interesting demonstration of Origami by Lady Captains' friend Christine. Christine made some lovely Christmas decorations ably assisted by Sandra Smith and Alison Jobes. I tried to make one when I got home - disaster darlings!



Sandra's Finished Product



Christmas Competition Winners
Lynn Simpson Jo Lingwood and Colette Bryant (missing from picture) with Lady Captain

CHRISTMAS COMPETITION



It seems a bit distant now but The Christmas Competition on Thursday 17th December was played in damp conditions to say the least but it didn't dampen our Christmas spirit.

Out of 19 Cards taken out on that day 7 were disqualified including Carol Coulson's (Competition Secretary) Team and Maggie Beadle's (Previous Competition Secretary) Team. No hope for the rest of us then!

The winning team was Lynn Simpson, Jo Lingwood and Colette Bryant and Runners-Up were Wendy Woodhead, Melanie Williams and Helen Ronnie.



Runners-Up Wendy Woodhead Melanie Williams and Helen Ronnie
Loving the Hats Girls

The weather was bad but we didn't realize we would have to get the boat out! Some people will go to any lengths to get their ball out of the pond! Watched over by Santa and The Captain!



Over 90 ladies sat down together for hot turkey rolls and mince pies. It was great to see many non-playing ladies joining us. Lady Captain raffled wonderful hampers, made possible again by your generosity.



Following the lunch Lady Captain presented a plant and John Lewis Vouchers from The Ladies Section to Sue from the Golf Club Office, who was retiring. We wish Sue a long and happy retirement.



Lady Captain Presenting Sue with a Gift

We miss Sue but I would like to take this opportunity of introducing you all to Amy who is Sue's replacement and is now working alongside Karen in the Office. Amy's experience as an Events Organiser will be of great value to Bramhall Golf Club.



Office Assistant Amy

WINTER LEAGUE

The Winter League Roll-Up is now well underway. At the time of writing we have not had many dry Thursdays and the course has been more suitable for mud-wrestling. Trolleys have been banned consequently cutting down the number of ladies currently playing. If you cannot carry and still wish to play please see Tom Breen in the office who will decide whether an exemption is appropriate. If you do use a trolley we ask that you cut down on the number of clubs to lighten the load.



The competition secretary decides how many holes we are playing and what the format is and a draw for partners takes place. Points are awarded on a sliding scale and accumulate for the Winter

League Prizes. Lunch is soup and sandwiches. So if you want to keep your competitive spirit alive come and join us - it's great fun.

OPENING OF SEASON



All Prize Day will be on Thursday 7th April 2016. Everyone brings a prize to the value of £7 and everyone wins a prize - Good Eh! There will be an evening Presentation and Dinner so put this date in your diary NOW. Non-Playing members are most welcome and there will be a list in the foyer in early March to sign up.

All the Ladies Fixtures are on the Website www.bramhallgolfclub.co.uk. Click on Members then Diary & Fixtures. There is a list on the notice board if you wish to sign up to play with Lady Captain.



Our Exchange away day this year is at Fairhaven Golf Club on Thursday 1st September 2016. As in past years this will be a draw. There is also an

Exchange with Bramall Park on Thursday 29th September 2016.

PRESENTATIONS

With dwindling numbers and prizes now automatically put on accounts in the Pro's Shop, it has been decided that Prize Presentations will only take place following Board Competitions or other Major dates. The names of all Golf and Bridge prize winners will be published in the newsletters.

This year's presentations are as follows:

DATE	COMPETITION	TIME
10 th March	Winter League/Fun Day	After Competition
7 th April	All Prize Day	Evening Dinner
5 th May	Lady Captains Charity Day	After Competition
26 th May	Challenge Bowl Final	After Competition
16 th June	Professionals Day	After Competition
30 th June	Lady Captains Day	Evening Dinner
5 th July	Invitation Day	After Meal
14 th July	Centennial/Senior Ladies Bowl	After Competition
28 th July	Mr.Captains Day	Evening Dinner
11 th August	Mr.Presidents Day	Evening Dinner
1 st September	Fairhaven Exchange	After Competition
8 th September	Gold Medal Final	After Competition
3 rd November	Close of Season	Evening Dinner
1 st December	Yellow Ball Shotgun	After Competition
8 th December	Waltzing Stableford Shotgun	After Competition
15 th December	Christmas Competition Shotgun	After Competition

9 HOLE COMPETITIONS



An Order of Merit will run throughout the season for the ladies who want to reduce from 18 holes to 9 holes. We hope it will tempt competitiveness and the winner of the Order of Merit will win The Poppy Trophy at the end of the season. The nine hole competitions are listed on the fixtures.



BUSINESS LADIES



Fiona Kelsall has, so far, organised matches on Sunday 8th May at 1:00pm v Warrington (Home), Saturday 21st May at 12:30pm v Astbury (Away), Sunday

12th June 1:28pm v Warrington (Away), Sunday 26th June 1:00pm v Astbury (Home). These fixtures are in the Club Diary.

Criteria for team selection - those ladies who work and therefore do not play in the league matches on Mondays. (The official rules of the competition allows for other ladies to play as long as they have not played in the league match during that week and this rule would become necessary if we didn't have 3 "workers" available.) Fiona would be interested to hear from any ladies who work and are unable to play in the shield matches on Mondays.

Thanks, as always Fiona for your efforts.

MATCHES

The Ladies new Match Secretary is Luci Foster. Caroline McGeorge will organise the 'friendlies'. All the Match information for 2016 has been posted on the notice board. Please indicate when you are available so that the teams can be selected in advance. I can vouch that playing in the Friendly Team is a lot of fun and gives you a good grounding for future match play. It's what it says on the tin 'Friendly'. Don't be afraid of signing up especially all you new ladies.



From March onwards Luci will organise Match Practice on alternate Tuesdays commencing at 9:30am. Matchplay is great fun and competitive and we urge you to come along and join us.

LESSONS



Scott, our assistant Pro is once again offering lessons to Ladies in groups of 3. He will cover putting, chipping, bunkers and anything else you request (careful Scott) and will charge £30 for 3 ladies (£10 each). If you wish to partake in these lessons please inform the Pro's shop.

COMMUNICATION

Ladies are reminded that, to help with lines of communication, the Ladies Committee Meeting Minutes are available on the notice-board in the lobby. There is also a suggestion book above the cupboard.



If Ladies have any complaints regarding catering etc. please do not enter into dialogue with the kitchen staff. Please address your complaint through a

committee member, or in respect of social events, through Kath Ince.



FLOWER ROTA

Volunteers are needed to help with flowers. A list has been put up on the social notice board. It would be appreciated if you could sign up to help. Obviously the more that sign up the better the load is spread. It would be appreciated if the very artistic ladies (you know who you are) would sign up for the major events when a dinner is planned. You don't have to be on the Committee to do this. Thank you all in anticipation.

OFFICERS



For anyone who doesn't already know the newly appointed Officers of the Club for 2016 are:

President:	Bill McWalter	(12)
Captain:	Melvyn Ince	(12)
Vice-Captain	Ian Hazlewood	(17)
Lady Captain:	Maggie Lee	(27)
Lady Vice:	Frances Gell	(20)
Junior Captain:	Georgina Day	(8)

The numbers are their handicaps - not their ages!

The clear message from all the Officers at the A.G.M. and some wise words for us all to think about were:

'Instead of thinking about what the Club can do for you, think about what you can do for the Club.'



LADIES COMMITTEE



A very smooth running Ladies Annual Meeting took place on Thursday 4th February with 68 Ladies attending.

A proposal was passed that the Committee should be reduced to no more than 12 Ladies. Good reports were given by all sections. Treasurer announced an increase in Prize money for the coming season. It was noted that Lady Membership was decreasing and the Club will be instigating an incentive scheme for new members in due course. Everyones help in this area will be greatly appreciated.

Two awards were presented during the evening: The Boardman Woods were presented for the best gross score during last season. These were won by

Caroline McGeorge for a gross score of 79. (I have trouble making that as net score - Ed)!



Boardman Trophy Winner Caroline McGeorge

The Ratcliffe Trophy for the most improved golfer throughout the previous season was presented to Judith Wheatley. Judith has reduced her handicap from 22 to 18.



Ratcliffe Trophy Winner Judith Wheatley

The E.W.G.A. Medal was won by Collette Bryant. This was for the best aggregate score over the major competitions Unfortunately Collette was unable to be there to collect her medal but will go forward to play in the National Competition at Lancaster Golf Club in May.

Congratulations to all three ladies.

Four ladies have retired from the Committee having served their 3 years. Carol Coulson served as Competition Secretary, Claire Fitzpatrick as Match Secretary and House Representative., Jean McGrail, Assistant Secretary and Alison Jobes, Opens Organiser. Alison will continue to be co-opted as Opens Organiser, Wendy Woodhead will assist.

New Committee members are Luci Foster, Match Secretary, Caroline McGeorge, Sue Taylor and Sandra Smith on the competition rota with Pat Marriott who takes over as Competition Secretary. Pauline Evans will be our representative on House also dealing with lockers and trolley pegs. Welcome to all of you ! I have served for 2 years now and will continue. Hence I am still your Newsletter Ed! Sorry!

The Committee held their 'end of term' dinner in January. This was held at the club with a lovely meal being prepared by Jamie and we were waited on hand and foot by Clare, who ensured we didn't go thirsty. We played games, danced and sang - if I tell you any more I will have to shoot you - suffice to say a good time was had by all, including Frank, our special guest of honour.



Guest of Honour - Frank



CHRIS LOOKS FORWARD TO A GREAT YEAR



Chris Kelly President M.D.L.G.A. 2016
Congratulations From Us All

The Manchester and District Ladies Golf Association (M.D.L.G.A.) was formed in 1902 and over the years has gone from strength to strength organising top competitions for over 90 clubs within a radius of 25 miles from Manchester Town Hall.

Each year they appoint a Lady President who has served on the MDLGA committee and our own Chris Kelly is very proud to be this year's President.

Chris said: 'I joined Chorlton Golf Club as a beginner in 1993 and spent enjoyable years there before moving to Bramhall Golf Club, which is in the area where I live.' 'I have been a member of

Bramhall for the past 18 years and had the pleasure of being Lady Captain in 2003.'

'I joined the M.D.L.G.A. committee in 2006 and served for three years, learning to be a competitions organiser in my first year, running competitions in my second year and training a new committee member in my third year and in addition I helped and joined in with various other activities.'

'I am proud to represent Bramhall Golf Club as President of M.D.L.G.A. and hope this brings honour to my golf club which will host the prestigious Bell Cup final and I will look forward to upholding the traditions of M.D.L.G.A. throughout the year.'

PRESIDENT M.D.L.G.A. PAST LADY CAPTAINS

On Monday 1st February Avril Hill came into office as the President of the Manchester and District Society of Past Lady Captains. We all support you Avril and wish you well for 2016.



M.D.L.G.A. Past Lady Captains President
2016 Avril Hill - Congratulations Avril

BRIDGE



The Past Lady Captains Bridge Drive was held on 12th January 2016. The results were as follows:

The results of the Members Bridge held on 19th January were as follows:

1st Prize:	Maggie Beadle & Marie Francom
2nd Prize:	Mary Hirst & Moreen Thompson
Slam Prize:	Betty Harrison & Brenda McDonald
Consolation Prize:	Janet Ballard & Marie McWalter

Breege Clarke and Janet Lee continue to do a sterling job organising the Bridge. Thank you for all your hard work.

LADIES EVENTS 2016

INVITATION BRIDGE DRIVE

Tuesday 16th February 2016

1.00pm - 4.00pm

FINAL WINTER LEAGUE WITH LADY CAPTAIN'S FUN AFTERNOON

Thursday 10th March 2016

12.00 Noon Onwards

ALL PRIZE DAY/OPENING OF SEASON DINNER

Thursday 7th April 2016

7.00pm for 7.30pm

LADY CAPTAINS CHARITY DAY

Thursday 5th May 2016

LADIES OPEN

Wednesday 18th May 2016

LADY CAPTAINS DAY

COMPETITION/BRIDGE/DINNER

Thursday 30th June 2016

LADIES INVITATION DAY

Thursday 5th June 2016

CAPTAINS DAY FOR LADIES

COMPETITION/BRIDGE/DINNER

Thursday 28th July 2016

PRESIDENTS DAY FOR LADIES

COMPETITION/BRIDGE/DINNER

Thursday 11th August 2016

BRONTE



Bronte continues to do well -The new Number 1 in the Women's Collegiate Individual Rankings and currently lying 4th in the Ladies Amateur World rankings.

Bronte finished in a triple tie for second place at the South American Amateur Championship at Lima Golf Club, Peru, after a final round 71 at the end of January.

We all wish Bronte well for her 2016 Season.

REMINDERS



COURSE CONDITION

Through the winter we have been requested to 'Carry if Possible.' We realise that this is not possible for all Ladies; however, can we request that if you use your trolley you reduce the number of clubs in order to lighten the load.

MATS

During this time we are requested to use mats or move your ball to the rough (at least 2 club lengths). Repair any divots you see and carry a pitch fork to repair pitch marks on the greens. Our Greens staff work very hard to keep the course in good order for us to enjoy so we can repay them by helping in this way.



CLUB CHARITY BUNKER & POND



Lady Captains Charity Trap is the left hand bunker on the 4th Hole. Mr. Captains Charity Trap is the pond on the 4th. Should your ball enter either The Pond or The Bunker, in the spirit of generosity you may wish to forfeit at least £1 for the benefit of the North West Air Ambulance.

However should you wish to make an upfront donation of £5 (more if you

like) you can have as many visits to these hazards as you wish without it affecting your pocket every time! You will then get a 'bag tag' as proof of payment! If you go in both - you get a BOGOF offer! Bag tags are available from the Bar or any member of the Committee.



Ball in Bunker equals £1 in Pot!



Ball in Pond equals £1 in Pot!

CONGRATULATIONS



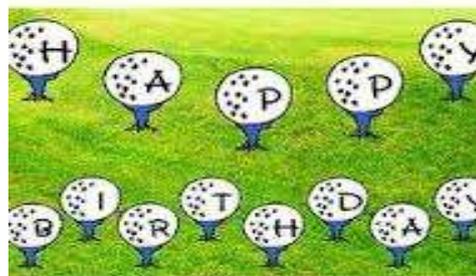
Congratulations to Nicola Hall who shortly after Christmas announced her engagement to Eddie. They plan to marry in April 2017. We all send our love and best wishes to you both. Start saving up Nigel!



Nicola & Eddie

To Jan King, Sue Braddock, Ruth Riley and Linda Forbes - Congratulations on your upcoming special 'Zero' birthdays - twenty, thirty or forty perhaps! Enjoy the moment!

I know there are a number of ladies having special birthdays this year - let me know and I'll give them a mention.



CALL THE MIDWIFE!



Lovely Sophie from the Catering Staff has recently graduated and become a

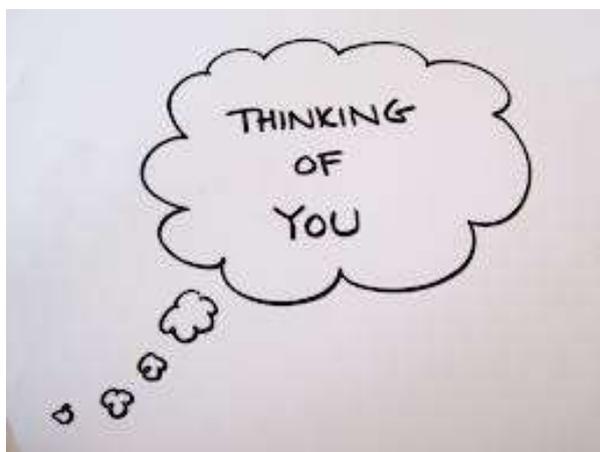
fully-qualified midwife. We will still see her waiting on at various functions at the moment until she gets a full-time midwifery post. Congratulations Sophie.

Jill, the soup, cake and yummy pudding-maker became a Grandma twice over in the Christmas/New Year period. Hope she'll still have time to make the great cakes. Many congrats Jill.

GOOD WISHES



Good to see Jean Thexton back amongst us following her surgery. Also Jean McGrail is back playing following her accident. Kath Kirwan is 'almost there' and hopes to get back on the course as soon as possible.



We send special thoughts to our Hon.Secretary, Helen Clegg and to

Shirley Godward and Sarah Brown at this time.

To Ladies who are not well or need cheering we send our thoughts and Best Wishes. We are thinking about you and hope you will be back amongst us soon.



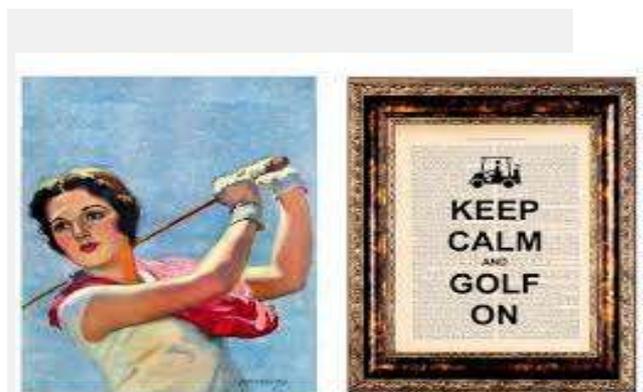
NEWSLETTER

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking you all for taking the trouble to read the Newsletters during 2015 and hope that you will continue in 2016.

Apologies for some of the poor quality photos in this edition - I think I was suffering with camera shake towards the end of the year!

Remember -This is **your** Newsletter. If you have any dynamic or dodgy moments on (or off) the course please let me know. I would be grateful for any contributions to be emailed to me for inclusion. Deadline for the Spring Newsletter 10th May 2016.

kathince53@gmail.com



Winter 2016