

## Club Captain – Gary Ryder

Hi Everyone. Well the weather has improved quite a bit and the course is starting to look good for the coming season. Many thanks to Tiff, Peter and all of the volunteers who have worked so hard to achieve this, even managing to get the monthly Medal played.

The club has purchased a mini digger for the greenstaff to use, especially on the drainage system and dykes etc and I am sure it will be a great help to them. On the subject of the course it is still quite wet, so please repair divots and pitch marks as it all helps the course and the greenstaff.

It was great to see a good turnout for the Spring Stableford even though the course did play very long and made scoring very difficult for most of us.

Friday night was Alan Clarke's Charity Quiz night and there was a decent turnout of ten teams, however there is still room for more when the next one is held. Thank you to Alan who made a great job of setting and asking the questions in his usual entertaining way with the help of Brenda.

Winners on the night were Tam's Team

2<sup>nd</sup> – Dick Martin's Team

3<sup>rd</sup> – Paul Allen's Team (including me)

I would like to say a big thank you to all of the teams for donating their prize money to my charity, which is MND. I have decided to keep the Captain's Charity Bunker the same as last year on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> hole. The County Competitions lists are all up on the notice board, so please help the Captains by putting your names up for selection.

All that's left for me to say is good luck to everyone who plays in the RNLi at the weekend. Let's remember what a great job they do and that all monies will be donated to them.

Good Golfing

## CLASSIC CATERING

Catering is available from  
7.30am  
Monday – Saturday

To avoid waiting please  
pre-order by ringing Tonya  
on 07896008278

or

Ring 01366 382133 and  
press 2 for Bar and  
Catering

## CHAIRS FOR SALE



The club are looking to sell the surplus clubhouse chairs.

There are 40 available at a bargain price of £5 each.

Or the whole lot can be yours for £150.

Enquire through the office

Can be easily stacked and stored for functions.



Ryston Park  
Golf Club

# Newsletter

March 2024

## Ladies Captain – Ann Fletcher

Looks like March has come in with a bang, as at time of writing this, I'm hoping it'll go out like a lamb.... we certainly could do with a respite in this incessant rain!

At last, we managed to play the last leg of the Divisional Winter League matches, with a resounding 4-1 win over Thetford. 3 wins and 1 halved match in the Division takes us through to the semi-final against Royal Cromer, to be played at Bawburgh. The team, at the semi-final, played their hearts out, but were not successful in getting to the final. Well played to all the Ladies who participated in the Winter League, and big thanks to Pat Blyth for being the Winter League Captain, many thanks to all.



At the same time The Winter League Team was battling at Bawburgh, Tiff and I played our Daily Mail Foursomes match against Ely, at home. Giving 15 shots to Ely, I am proud to say, we won with a score of 5/4. Our next opponents will be Old Nene Golf & Country Club, away.

It was with a sad heart that I learned of the passing of Pat Newton, at a wonderful age of 99. I personally didn't know her when she was a playing member at Ryston. She had been Lady Captain in 1965 and 1981. I remember her for her fabulous water colour paintings and the Art group I attended on Mondays. I would also like to send sympathy to Pat Blyth from all of us in the ladies' section, on the passing of her husband Tony.

At last, we have had our first qualifying 9-hole medal. After all the rain we've had, it's a relief to play on a dry sunny day, though very windy for the afternoon players. Congratulations to Maggie Ward on a good win. Keeping finger crossed for better weather now that competitions are beginning.

## Seniors Captain – Eric Savage

Finally the weather is starting to get a little better and the course is drying up.

We played Ely City at home on 14th of March with 16 players per team. Unfortunately we lost by six and a half to five and a half. In the evening the Ely Captain emailed me saying that he had been inundated with phone calls from his players, saying what a great day they had and congratulating the greenstaff on the course condition and catering staff on the wonderful food. Which I think shows what a great course we have.



We played at Feltwell on 28th of March in very windy conditions, but unfortunately lost all our games, I think we need more practice lads!

Now the greens have been toppedressed I'm sure the greens will now come on in leaps and bounds, but it was interesting playing on the temporary greens while they were being done though.

Finally, Graham Kinghams funeral was on 12th March, and it was a wonderful turnout of members of the golf club to pay respects to a lovely man that will be missed so much by us all.



# Newsletter

March 2024

The Secretary – Andy Ware

## WHS

The changes to the handicap system have now come in, so your course handicap may have changed. If you have any problems with it or want to know more please let me know.

## Knockout Competitions

The closing date for entries into the Campbell Cup and the Eva New is 7th April, so get your entry in if you want to play. You will need to have made a payment on your subscription to be eligible and have played in 4 Medals or Stablefords in the last 12 months.

Please make sure you lock your locker up when out on the course as money has been taken from an unlocked locker recently. Please be vigilant and report anything suspicious.

## Subscriptions

Subscriptions are now overdue, so please make a payment now if you wish to remain a member. Handicaps will be suspended if no payment has been received and access to competitions will be stopped.

## James Braid Cup

Well done to Johnny Clements who won the James Braid Cup this year.

This Competition has now started again and will run all year as a Men's Monthly Stableford. You can play up to 4 times a month from the white tees, £2 a round. Please enter via sheet in changing rooms and put card in Competitions box when finished.

## RESULTS

### March Medal

Bradley Broach	63
Kyle Richardson	68

### Midweek Medal

Ken Newman	69
Shane Fitt	69

### Spring Stableford

Zak Merrishaw	35
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### Midweek Stableford

Justin Buntin	37
John Hazle	37

## Golf Lessons Available

Peter Lunt has been a fully qualified PGA Professional for over 35 years.

Lesson fees are:  
£15 for half an hour.  
£25 for 5 hole playing lesson.

All other lesson options  
negotiable.

Contact Peter on 07568318390  
[Plunt79@gmail.com](mailto:Plunt79@gmail.com) to book.



## Greenstaff

The course has started to come to life in the last couple of weeks, there's leaves now starting to appear on the trees and growth has kicked in over the whole course. The winter seems a distant memory already.

The greens were top-dressed a couple of weeks ago and although not ideal for short term playability it will have benefits for the season.

- 1) It has firmed the greens up as they have been soft over the winter.
- 2) Wet conditions increase organic matter build up and top-dressing helps dilute it.
- 3) Truness, the sand fills in indentations within the green and helps create a smoother surface.

The greens are now starting to come out of dormancy and just like you and I, we all wake up differently. The Rye and Bent grasses are straight out of bed and ready for the day, whereas the Poa needs to press that snooze button a few more times. So this is why the greens are uneven at the moment. However, as the top-dressing has settled nicely, we can now start to mow more frequently and gradually reduce the height of cut. They will improve with every day now as the temperatures increase.

The troublesome putting green is going to be undergoing some drainage work within the next couple of weeks. We are going to pipe around it and run a pipe parallel to the car park to the ditch in the far corner. This should allow the water to escape that is building up near the flower bed and help dry the green out. The putting green will also be hollow-cored and top-dressed.

It's been a long and stressful winter but it seems the worst is over and we can now look forward to presenting the course the best we can for the season.



The digger has been put to use already and made light work of clearing the temporary path that was put down during the wet conditions.



Ground conditions have been challenging.

