



**Captain:**  
**BRIAN WEST**

**Next meeting:**  
**Chesfield**  
**Downs**  
**Golf Club**

**Friday**  
**3rd December**

Our AGM could not go ahead at Gog Magog, because the accounts (year doesn't end until Oct 31) could not be completed in time. However, the venues were at least agreed which should mean a rather quick AGM at our grand Xmas event.

**Entries to BGS**  
**Secretary**  
**Stan Kelley**

**Email:**  
**Secretary@**  
**bengeogolfsociety.**  
**org.uk**

**01992 586280**  
**or 07702 363611**

## **FIXTURES** **FOR 2011**

Friday March 11  
Thursday March 31  
Thursday May 5  
Tuesday June 7  
Wednesday July 6  
Wednesday August 3  
September date TBA  
Friday?? October 7  
Thursdat??? November 3

# IT'S TURKEY



# TROT TIME!

THE big Turkey Trot beckons (see overleaf) but when it came to teams at Gog Magog then no one could touch Craig Caswell, Sid Platten and yours truly Stan Kelley.

Playing best score for holes 1-6, best

two scores 7-12, then all three scores holes 13-18, the winning trio amassed 81 points – five clear of two teams on 75 – including four birdies shared by Craig and Sid.

Clinching second place on countback were David Grange,

Charles Wallis and Michael Barker.

Third were Tim Dent, Damien Turley and Graham Beetles.

The individual honours belonged to 12-handicapper Terry Fuller who racked up 40 points on Gog's long new course.

Runner-up Ivan Pettit was kicking himself, for he slipped up with two blobs in his tally of 38 points.

But the day really belonged to Sid Platten, for 18 months back he suffered a brain tumour which left him fearing he'd never walk again, let alone play golf.

His winning Group 2 with 37 points (beating Craig Caswell on countback) was therefore a massive achievement for Sid.

That brain tumour left Sid paralysed all down his right side.

He was initially taken to QEl Hospital (Welwyn Garden City) back in May 2009; was then transferred to the Royal Free to remove the tumour, and remained hospitalised for three-and-a-half months.

"It was a Sunday when I first attempted to get out of bed," recalls Sid, "and I fell over and couldn't get up again."

Sid eventually came out of hospital in a wheelchair. "It was December before I could walk again – and that was only with a walking frame!"

It was nearly the end of January 2010 before Sid could discard walking sticks. **But by June he was back playing with us at BGS – as has done so every month since then.**

"I'm still struggling for balance" complained Sid whose scores ranged from 26

*Continued overleaf*



**ON ME 'EAD SON... Sid Platten is shadowed by Craig Caswell in the winning team line-up at Gog Magog, together with Stan Kelley after receiving their prize wine from captain Brian West.** Pictures: DAMIEN TURLEY



**COUNTING THEIR LUCK... Team runners-up – but only on countback – were Michael Barker, Charles Wallis and (right) vice-captain David Grainge.**



**EVERY ONE A WINNER... Group 3 winner Ivan Pettit; captain Brian; Group 1 and overall winner Terry Fuller; and Group 2 top man Sid Platten who played his best game since suffering a brain tumour.**

## **GOLF** **TRUISMS**

When your shot has to carry over a water hazard, you can either hit one more club or two more balls.

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to 20 points.

So making 37 points and third place at Gog Magog proved a massive milestone.

"I've got my wife to

## GOLF TRUISMS

Never try to keep more than 300 separate thoughts in your mind during your swing.

thank for that," says Sid, "because she's encouraged me all the way – and even bought me a new set of clubs."

## KO FINALS

IT'S been a long wait to see the **Singles KO** final played, but a date has at least been agreed – Phil Grenwold and David Grainge are scheduled to play Saturday November 20th.

But, alas, not so much as a date has been agreed for the

## EARLY XMAS PRESENT



TIM DENT (left) struck lucky at Gog Magog when he drew the lucky ticket for a free day at our Xmas Scramble.

Big-hitting, Tim plays off a handicap of 11 so will be a team leader.

## PAIRS championship final.

Could it be the toss of a coin at our Xmas event decides it for... Phil Greenwold and

Andy Alexander v. Steve Langridge and Ken Gordon.

## QUICK AGM

THE AGM is now being held at Chesfield Downs. But it should be quick because (a) no one has asked for any new proposals to be considered, (b) the Committee is making only one proposal, and (c) no one else is yet stepping up to stand for Committee.

What's more, the venues were all agreed at Gog Magog.

Our AGM is now being held at the Xmas Scramble at Chesfield. **Want to make a proposal?** Then please call to have it added to the Agenda; new proposals will not be allowed on the day – Stan 01992 586280.

NOT played with us for some while? Then now is the time to get back in the swing! We need your support – and let's face it you really can't go wrong being in a team with **four** of you having a go at every shot and putt!

We're talking about the BIG event



of the year... the fun and feasting on festive food and bags of take-home fayre...

It's the XMAS SCRAMBLE.

Guests are welcome as usual to join in the thrills and spills of this fun game. It's teams-of-four comprising (near as possible) one low handicapper, one high (24+) and two middle men. Every team is therefore more or less level so there are no handicaps – you all play off scratch!

Scoring is *stroke play*, not *Stableford*. But it's a *scramble* which means you select your best tee shot, then everyone plays from that spot. You do the same even on the putting green. The one exception is when the chosen ball is in the rough or a bunker, in which case you drop the ball in that bunker or rough of course. *Remember, you have to use a minimum three tee shots from every player though.*

This is our 14th annual Christmas Scramble and to help get you get in festive spirit you'll see the tables laden with Christmas fayre prizes for all. And thanks to quite a bit of subsidy from our funds, it all comes for the superb price of £47 (guests £52).

It all starts with a handsome breakfast served from 8.30am. We then get hip flasks ready for 18 holes of fun Texas Scramble, after which it's stoke-up time again... with Xmas dinner.

And we all know what's for afters... the hullaboo of the prize-giving – and the AGM, when you get a chance to welcome your new captain.

Merry Christmas.

**Stan**

# IT'S THE BIG XMAS SCRAMBLE

## CHESFIELD DOWNS GOLF CLUB

Jack's Hill, Graveley, Nr. Stevenage, SG4 7EQ

**FRIDAY December 3, 2010**

**ENTRIES** via the BGS website (email link) or phone Stan Kelley 01992 586280 or 07702 363611. As always, minimum £20 penalty applies for any cancellations within three days of the event.

**COMPETITION:** 18 holes Texas Scramble, played as a Medal, not

**Pro shop:**  
01462  
482929

Stableford. At least three tee shots must be used from every player.

**TEE TIMES:** 1st and 10th tees reserved from 9.44am.

**COST:** £45 (£5 extra for guests) less £15 for Crown Golf members.

Price includes prizes for everyone, full English breakfast on arrival from 8.30am, and Christmas Dinner.

**DRESS:** Jacket 'n' BGS tie for dinner. Please advise guests to be suited and booted.

**MOBILE PHONES** not permitted in the clubhouse or on the course.

**BUGGIES:** Normally £25 but we've negotiated a special deal of just £15 (that's £7.50 per head) but you must book it via Stan Kelley.

**HOW TO GET THERE:** Chesfield Downs is located minutes from junction 8 off the A1. It's on the B197 near Stevenage, Hitchin, Letchworth and Baldock.

**Don't miss out... members get Xmas subsidy of at least £5**

