



CROWD PLEASER... That was my best drive of the day, said delighted Captain Charles Wallis, pictured completing his swing on the 1st tee at Gog Magog



ALL A-GOG... It's a champion start for Dan Todd (second left) who won the Spring Plate. He is flanked by Group 1&2 winners Harry Bracher and Robert Pegg, with captain Charles (right).

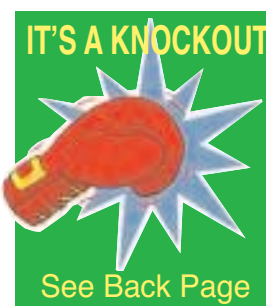
WE'D been practically paddling at our own courses, but as soon as we arrived it was obvious that Gog Magog had weathered the winter like a summer track.

We had a splendid turn-out of 40 for capt Charles Wallis' new season drive-in, but only one player managed to play to handicap – Dan Todd.

Dan Scored 37 points to lift the **Spring Plate** trophy, plus the Group 3 (h/cap 18+) prize.

Group 2 went to Robert Pegg with 34 points, while Harry Bracher claimed the Group 1 (h/cap 0-12) prize with 32 points.

Mentioned in dispatches: Peter Lacey, runner-up in Group 3 with 34 points. And one point adrift in Group 1 were Essendon pro (my



guest) Ian Taylor, Dave O'Brien and Eric Brown.

Top guests: Tim

Taylor 34 pts off 12, and John Silverosa 31 off 11.

Nearest pins: Chris Murray and Suru Madhvani.

GREAT START

THE captain's charity has got off to a great start with members kindly donating £175. That came by way of fines for bunkers and blobs.

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OUR NEXT MEETING..



**Its pro won
The Open
three times**

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ASHRIDGE WEDNESDAY APRIL 1

Little Gaddesden, Berkhamsted, HP4 1LY Pro: Peter Cherry 01442 842307



PICTURESQUE...National Trust woodland, bags of wildlife, including herds of deer.

ENTRIES at least seven days in advance of the event please. Email via the website or ring Stan Kelley on 01992 586280 (Mobile 07702 363611)

Cancellation rule: Minimum £20 penalty (full cost at some courses) for cancelling within three days of event (be sure to advise guests).

COMPETITION: 18 holes Singles Stableford playing for the **Bill Manton Cup** (holder: Michael Bench).

TEE TIMES: 8.30am from two start tees. Play from yellow tees as usual.

COST: We are subsidising the price to make it cheaper. £75 to members (£80 guests) includes

cost of prizes, ball sweep, Eclectic, plus tips. It also includes coffee and bacon rolls from 7.45am, plus the famous **four-course luncheon**.

MESSAGES may be left at the Pro Shop.

BUGGIES/TROLLEYS: No buggies available but trolleys are there for hire.

HOW TO GET THERE: From M25 – Leave at exit 20, take the A41 (dual carriageway) towards Aylesbury.

Leave A41 at the Chesham exit A416. Follow signs to Berkhamsted. At traffic lights on junction with Berkhamsted High Street turn left. After a mile or so you reach Northchurch. Turn

right by School and Church onto B4506 (called New Road) sign posted Ashridge. After approximately 3 miles, Club is on the right hand side.

From M1 Exit 8 and go straight across all roundabouts until reaching the 'magic roundabout' in centre of Hemel Hempstead. Turn right around roundabout and take the A4146 to Leighton Buzzard. Stay on this road for about 7 miles, going over narrow bridge at Water End, until reaching mini-roundabout at Dagnall. Turn left onto B4506. Up the hill into Ringshall and Club entrance is sign-posted about 1/2 mile further on left. Follow private road to clubhouse and car park.

Bhupi's beauty

Pulling out the lucky ticket for a freebie

at Ashridge – that's Bhupi Patel who exclaimed: What a beauty!



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Captain Charles' has nominated the local Isabel Hospital as his charity.

BGS WEBSITE

HANDICAP correct? Please check that we've got it right by looking up the website: www.bengeogolfsociety.org.uk

Thanks to our website wizkid Phil Houston you can also see results, draw for Knockouts, plus the line-up of events for rest of the season, all complete with links to all the clubs we play.



Top guest is Taylor made

Making 34 points – joint second best of the day – was Tim Taylor, guest of former captain Roger Butcher



IT'S A KNOCKOUT!

Draw for the **SINGLES and PAIRS** knockout championships will take place at Ashridge on Wednesday April 1. So if you haven't done so already then get your entry in fast.

The last few entries will be taken at Ashridge, but make life easier for yourself (and me) by entering **right now** – either by emailing or phoning Stan Kelley on 01992 586280 or 07702 363611.

Need a Pairs partner? Then let me know because I already have a man on the waiting list.

The entry fee is a nominal £1 per head for each event. All the **Rules Of Play** will be on www.bengeogolfsociety.org.uk together with the draw.

Ashridge pro Cotton's on to winning The Open 3 times

Ashridge was officially opened in 1932 and has regularly featured in the top 100 golf courses ever since.

Following its opening the club rapidly came to prominence following the appointment of Henry Cotton as resident Club Professional.

Sir Henry Cotton, as he was to become, was arguably the best golfer of his era, winning The British Open

Championship three times including the Open at Carnoustie in 1937. And in that year Sir Henry's two Assistants, Bill Laidlaw and Fred Robertson, finished 7th and 18th respectively – the only occasion during the last 100 years when three representatives of the same Club finished so high in the order.

There's a bit of history attached to almost every hole. Bernard Darwin wrote: "The romantic

and traditional names have not been lost...

Witchcraft Bottom, Nobs Crook, Thunderbell, Highwayman's Hide and Princess Riding."

Princess Riding now named 'Queen Elizabeth's Drive' – it's the 13th – is a long avenue with a stately monument at the end of it.

We'll be favoured with two start tees yet again on Wednesday April 1 – and Ashridge boasts: **We never have temporary greens or temporary tees.**

Stan

WELCOME

...to John Silverosa, who plays off 11 at Mill Green, introduced by club-mate Roger Butcher

NEXT SOUTH BEDS Thurs May 14

OLD FOLD MANOR Wednesday June 10

BEDFORD & COUNTY Tuesday July 14