

Well, hello Clive

WELCOME to our 2017 captain Clive Ackerman, famed for being full of "Eastern Promise."

Well Clive spent 40 years dealing in promises in the far east – importing and exporting – and you know how they can dance circles around you!

It was "a large family business" says Clive, and quite profitable too. "It supported six Ackerman relatives and families before we all decided to sell up and retire."

Clive's wife Judy, children and grandchildren, now watch him bring home the golf silverware.

He was captain of Nazeing Golf Club two years back and recorded his first hole-in-one that year. He also won several comps which saw his name being 'gold lettered' on no fewer than three winners boards.

The question is, can Clive dance some more as captain of Bengoe?



We've all suffered a rather wet winter and many closed courses. So you'll be pleased to hear that our first venue is among the finest draining tracks in the land. Indeed buggies have been allowed pretty well throughout the winter.

That's why we go back to **Gog Magog** time and again.

We're booked for Thursday March 2 on



the Old Course. But work is being carried on bunkers throughout the year at this 'top 100' venue, but it only affects a couple of

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holes at a time, so shouldn't present a problem.

Gog is also an OK place for nerves, for the opening hole is very wide and forgiving, which should be appreciated by Clive Ackerman for his Captain's Drive-in.

TOP 100 No2 is **Ashridge** on Monday April 3. It's another good rain track – and

their luncheon is also a bit special.

Ashridge's changing rooms are also well above average, with towels supplied.

On Thursday May 11 it's off to **South Beds**. We've managed to negotiate a fantastic price too – £10 less than most we play.

This club boasts two courses set in beautiful surroundings on the northern edge of Luton. But we play only the main Galley Hill course for both our morning and the afternoon events.

Talking about £10 discounts, it took some hard negotiating but the normally expensive **Welwyn Garden City** eventually agreed to our £10 discount to play there on Thursday June 8.

Next we return to the splendid turf of **Old Fold Manor**. It was designed by the famous Harry Colt, who also built Swinley Forest, Sunningdale, and Wentworth – no wonder the greens are so slick.

CHAIRMAN'S PERK

Don't miss Old Fold on Monday July 10. Bengoe member Chris Murray arranged a splendid price for us when he was chairman of the club, and that price still holds.

Our next stop is the delightful **Toot Hill**. It's 'signature hole' is the island par 3, which you can attempt to conquer in Wednesday August 16.

We then attempt to get Charles Wallis to complete a round of golf at **Bishop's Stortford**, instead of crashing his buggy.

We found that the course had greatly

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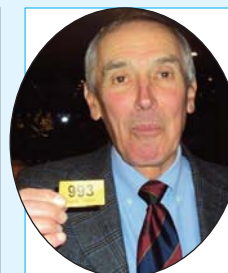
IT'S BAGS OF GOODIES ALL ROUND



BAGS OF XMAS FAYRE... and bags of fun for all. That was our Xmas Scramble at Knebworth, where five under par took the honours for Tim Taylor (left), John Silverosa, Dan Todd and captain Colin Andrews. See Back Page for full scores, also our website.



WHAT A HAT-TRICK... Steve Langridge amazingly won all three top awards, Player of Year, Singles and Pairs titles. He's pictured with partner Ken Gordon (left) and Captain Colin Andrews who presented the spoils. Story Back page.



IN THE MONEY... Roger Butcher was in the money all day (he was standing in as Treasurer), then rewarded with the **FREE DAY** ticket.

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benefitted from its new greenkeeper and new clubhouse. So it will be a very welcome return on Monday September 25 – and the price will again be unchanged.

On Wednesday November 1 it's back to the very popular **Letchworth**. The standard of the course and quality of greens are a real credit to its staff.

Finally we return to **Knebworth** for our great Xmas Scramble. The course and weather were superb last time, while the food was every bit as good as the previous years. Thursday November 30 is the date not to be missed.

WHAT A SCRAMBLE

KNEBWORTH attracted a great turn-out of 10 teams. And despite a cold wind, the pace was set by a superb *five under* par.

Results.

- 1st **5 under par**: John Silverosa, Tim Taylor, Colin Andrews, Dan Todd
 2nd **68 (3 under)**: Roger Butcher, Solly Khosravi, Robert Pegg, Charles Wallis
 3rd **68 (3 under)**: Simon Purkiss, Ken Gordon, Ray Whitehead, Brian West
 4th **70 (1 under)**: Steve Langridge, Dave O'Brien, Sid Platten, Ted Platten
 5th **71 (level par)**: Gwyn Ellis, Stan Kelley, Paul Morris, Gordon Morris
 6th **71 (level)**: Mick Rose, Mark Davis, Damien Turley
 7th **72 (1 over)**: Bob Duthie, David Grange, Bhupi Patel, Steve Hickey
 8th **72 (1 over)**: Clive Ackerman, John Hare, Graham Beetles, Suru Madhvani
 9th **73 (2 over)**: Lee Davis, Steve Foster, Bob Hughes (G), Gary Sando
 10th **73 (2 over)**: Chris Murray, Mike Barry, John Miller (G), Mick Millen



WELCOME TWO NEW MEMBERS

Ray Whitehead and Bob Duthie earned great applause when captain Colin presented them with their BGS ties at our Xmas Scramble.

Ray is introduced by Mill Green member John Silverosa, while Simon Purkiss introduced fellow Milton (Peterborough) club member Bob who plays of 8.1.

25-footer triggers hat-trick of titles

ALREADY *Player of the Year* and *McMullen Singles champion*, Steve Langridge needed only to win the much delayed **Concorde Pairs** final to complete the impossible – the hat-trick.

But with Ken Gordon at his side “we were hot favourites” agreed Steve.

They were up against new boy Sean Reilly and Dave O'Brien, but it was not played until just prior to our Xmas Scramble, at

neutral Essendon's, superb New Course.

Ken reports: “The tenor of the match was set on the first hole, where Dave and Sean must have felt they were going 1-up. They both had putts for birdie, whereas Steve and me were through the green.” They had not however counted on Steve sinking a 25-footer to half the hole in 4.

With the feeling of destiny on their side, Steve

and Ken then won five of the next six holes.

Their winning run was briefly brought to a halt at the island par-3 8th, where Dave's superb tee shot finished inside 2ft from the pin.

Having turned four-up, Steve and Ken won the 10th to restore their five-hole lead. And by halving the next four, they earned a stunning 5&4 victory – and that hat-trick.

Stan

MAC THE VICE...

Captain Clive Ackerman has invited Nick MacDermott to be his Vice-Captain.

And Clive says: “I'm sure everyone will agree Nick's a perfect choice.”



THE GOG MAGOG

**THURSDAY
MAR 2**

PRO:

01223 246058

OFFICE:

01223 247626

ENTRIES limited to 36 players, so please book early. Email via the website or ring Stan Kelley on 01992 586280 or Mobile 07702 36 36 11.

Cancellation rule: Minimum £20 penalty (full cost at some courses) for cancelling within 3 days of the event.

COMPETITIONS: 18 holes Singles Stableford, playing for the **Spring Plate** (holder: Dan Todd).

MEET from 9.15am for tea/coffee. TEE-OFF from 10am, 1st tee Old Course.

COST: £55 (subject to confirmation due to caterer change). Price inclusive of prize table and Eclectic, raffle, ball sweep and gratuity for the waitress service.

Two-course lunch follows the

SHELFORD BOTTOM, CAMBRIDGE CB22 3AB



18 holes Spring Plate comp.

DRESS: Shorts if you dare (but blue kneecaps will make a good picture!!!) Jackets 'n' BGS ties are a must for dinner as usual.

BUGGIES... available from the pro shop but they only have a few so book early – cost £22.50. Electric trolleys £10

HOW TO GET THERE: The Gog Magog Golf Club is situated on the A1307 some four miles south of the centre of Cambridge and is easily accessed via the M11/A11.

The entrance is really close to the roundabout, so be sure to WATCH OUT you don't miss it.

