

IT'S THE GREAT KNEBWORTH Golf Club



XMAS SCRAMBLE Thursday 4th December



BUNKERED? That's not quite the word used by Peter Lacey when he found his tee shot in the back of this greenkeeper's truck.

NEW member Peter Lacey was dead worried that he'd be fined for landing in an unusual sand trap while playing at Letchworth (see picture).

"I teed off and the ball went over trees and we heard a big bang," explains Peter. "It seems the ball hit a greenkeeper's truck (that was the bang) and ended up in the back with a load of sand."

But no one mentioned it during dinner, otherwise Peter way well have been asked to contribute £1 'fine' to the Captain's charity.

Peter was playing with Dave O'Brien and Simon Purkiss who carded 74 points on the Crescendo for second place. That was thanks mainly to Simon who scored a near level par round of 39 points off his handicap of 5.

Runner-up for the President's Cup was fellow Group 1 player-

Roger Butcher with 35 points. But although Roger missed out on the Group 1 prize, he clinched the team glory with David Grainge and Suru Madhvani, totalling 75 points.

FIVE players tied on 31 points for the Group 2 prize. Steve Foster got the verdict with the best back nine, over Colin Andrews, Robert Pegg, David Grainge and Tim Dent.

Suri Madhvani claimed the Group 3 prize with 32 points.

Nearest pins: 14th was 'sand truck man' Peter Lacey; 17th Tim Dent.

CHAMPS AT LAST

SO often runners-up in the **Concorde Trophies Pairs championship** Gwyn Ellis and Rob Clayton made no mistake at their own Mill Green course this year.

They were up against father and son David and Tom Grainge. All square after nine, there was never more than one hole in it until Gwyn let loose a barrage of birdies well into the back nine.

It ended 2&1 in favour of the home team.

But all was not lost as far as David Grainge was concerned, for he won the **McMullen's Singles championship**, by beating me, Stan Kelley 4&2.

"I played all my previous finals at other people's courses, so I made sure I didn't play away this time" says David.

"I'm not a member of a club any more, so I took Stan to a course I knew he'd never played."

That was Ash Valley, near Gt Hadham. And sure enough it proved a winner for David.

However, it was all square at the turn and was going knock for knock until Stan suffered some serious, non-stop hooking and slicing.

CAPTAIN'S SERIOUS OP

AS I write captain Richard Fobbester is still in the Royal Free Hospital after undergoing two operations to remove a growth which is also affecting his liver.

Richard's wife Pat has been staying and sleeping alongside him and tells me that he remains upbeat and ready for chemotherapy.

Continued Back page

WHO'S IN THE MONEY?
See Eclectic results Back Page



IN THE PICTURE... twice is nice, says Suru Madhvani who not only won Group 3 but also wine with the winning team of David Grainge and Roger Butcher.



Pictured next to Suru is vice capt Colin Andrews (standing in for captain Richard) who also presented prizes to Group 2 winner Steve Foster, and 'untouchable' cup winner Simon Purkiss

SAME AGAIN PRICE FOR OUR GREAT CHRISTMAS SCRAMBLE

FULL ENGLISH BREAK-FAST, golf and Xmas Dinner, plus loads of prize goodies – and all for the same **reduced price** as last year.

We're talking about our BIG event of the year – the Xmas Scramble. And that price reduction is about as rare as hens teeth (or should that be turkey?)

Thanks to Knebworth and quite a bit of subsidy from funds, it means members will be paying only £45 (guests £55). And that includes at least £10 of goodies.

NOT played with us lately? Then now's the time to get



back in the swing!

Make the effort. 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!

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 (20+) and two middle men. Every team is therefore

more or less level so there are no handicaps – you all play off scratch! And scoring is *stroke play*.

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

the rough of course.

Remember, you have to use a minimum four tee shots from every player though.

This is our 19th annual Christmas Scramble and to help get you get in festive spirit you'll see the tables laden with Christmas fayre prizes for all.

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 hullabaloo of the prizegiving – and the AGM.

Merry Christmas.

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

Continued from Page 1

Richard is also hoping to be well enough to attend the dinner for our Xmas Scramble. I have of course forwarded our very best wishes to both of them.

Meanwhile, Richard will have welcomed good news as far as his charity is concerned – £163 raised at

Letchworth, boosting the overall total to £1,765, plus we have two more 4-balls for his auction.

We already have **John O'Gaunt**, **Saffron Walden** and **Mill Green** to be auctioned at Knebworth, plus the two extras – **North Weald** and **Silvermere**, both generously donated by Stephen Hickey.

ECLECTIC

Michael Bench paid the price for not attending Letchworth, for he was knocked off top spot by young Tom Grainge. But he still picks up the substantial pricemoney for second place.

56 Tom Grainge
55 Michael Bench
54 Steve Langridge
53 Stan Kelley

52 Richard Fobbester, David Grainge, Nick MacDermott, Colin Andrews, Steve Foster
51 Rob Clayton, Sid Platten

AND FINALLY

Another quote from a Dennis Dawson, book "I know I'm getting better because I'm hitting few spectators" – former President GERALD FORD

NEIL NAILED IT



Neil Swane, one of four guests brought along to Letchworth by Mick Goddard, drew our FREE DAY ticket. Neil wasn't planning to play our Xmas Scramble at Knebworth, but he is now!

PLAYER OF YEAR

Your best **FIVE** scores out of eight to count, so you can miss three and still win

THANKS to Michael Bench failing to play, Steve Langridge remains top of the table and winner of the *Player of the Year*. Michael was runner-up just three points adrift, with David Grainge still third, followed by vice-captain Colin Andrews leaping five places thanks to 21pts replacing 3pts. Top 20:

	Gog	Ash	JOG	MH	SW	CS	TH	L	Total
Steve Langridge	25	12	19	7	25	9	25	14	108
Michael Bench	16	25	15	25	24	0	0	0	105
David Grainge	19	1	24	23	17	14	16	21	104
Colin Andrews	2	1	21	14	22	23	3	21	101
Richard Fobbester	24	21	9	18	23	11	3	0	97
Stan Kelley	6	24	22	12	15	24	7	8	97
Roger Butcher	17	1	25	0	19	0	11	24	96
Nick MacDermott	13	23	15	17	0	25	16	2	96
Sid Platten	16	19	15	23	17	9	21	14	96
Steve Foster	9	1	6	24	10	15	16	21	86
Gary Sando	2	12	19	12	0	17	21	0	81
Robert Clayton	21	4	15	14	0	23	1	8	81
Steve Temple	21	16	15	1	14	3	11	1	77
Tom Grainge	4	12	0	1	19	23	0	8	66
Clive Ackerman	24	8	15	5	0	10	7	4	64
Tim Dent	0	16	0	8	0	0	19	21	64
Dave O'Brien	1	16	9	7	0	0	19	10	61
Bhupri Patel	0	16	2	5	21	14	5	0	61
Suru Madhvani	13	4	1	0	0	17	0	23	58
Charles Wallis	19	4	1	23	0	0	11	1	58
Kevin Johnston	0	1	16	0	14	23	0	0	54
Steve Hickey	1	1	4	12	21	4	11	4	52



Deards End Lane, Knebworth, SG3 6NL. Pro Shop: 01438 812757

Thursday December 4, 2014

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

TEE TIMES: 1st tee reserved from 9.30am.

COST: £45 (£55 for guests). Price includes prizes for everyone, full English breakfast on arrival from 8.30am, Christmas Dinner, plus gratuity, plus the ball sweep/lucky dip for free day at Gog Magog next year.

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: Might be available, but unlikely.

HOW TO GET THERE: From the A1(M) – Leave the A1(M) at Junction 7 and follow the signs for the A602. At the second roundabout turn right towards Knebworth on the B197.

Before entering the village at the top of a steep hill, turn right into Deards End Lane, and the golf club is just 50 yards away on the right.