

Next meeting:  
**BROOKMANS PARK**  
Thursday April 4



Captain: **ROGER BUTCHER**

Book to play:

Secretary@bengeogolfsociety.org.uk



**DREADED DRIVE-IN...**  
*But moments later it was applause all round, for captain Roger Butcher's drive-in was perfect.*

WE have lucky captain it seems, for the sun shone brilliantly and the temperature soared to 16° for his drive-in at Ashridge.

The temperature was freezing either side of Roger's big day. However, the hottest man around was un-

questionably Michael Bench, for he who scored scorching 42 points.

He won the **Spring Plate** four points clear of the field – and that

**PRICE UNCHANGED**

It was a good deal five years ago – and even better now, for Brookman's Park are charging us the same price

Michael was just the beginning, for Michael also won nearest the pin, and to cap it all he had the ticket for a free day at our next venue. Michael

topped Group 3 (it means he'll be cut three shots).

But a mere 36 points secured both Group 1 and 3 prizes for Gwyn Ellis and Robert Pegg.

Gary Sando and Richard Fobbester also recorded 36 points as runners-up in Group 3.

## TWO NEW GUYS

Guests also did rather well. Harry Collins brought along Michael Abrahams from St Neots who proceeded to top score with 38 points.

He promptly decided to join the BGS along with my guest, Eric Brown from East Herts, who rated second among the guests with 36 points.

Nearest pins: 3rd hole Michael Abrahams; 16th Michael Bench.

## PLAYER OF YEAR

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

Huge shock. Reigning champion Phil Greenwood got off to a very slow start by scoring just seven points at Ashridge. But there's a long way to go – and being able to drop your three worst scores can reap huge long term dividends of course.

	A	Tot
Michael Bench	25	25
Gwyn Ellis	24	24
Rich Fobbester	24	24
Robert Pegg	24	24
Gary Sando	24	24
Nick MacDermott	20	20
Dave O'Brien	20	20
Brian West	20	20
Chris Ashbolt	17	17
Roger Butcher	17	17
Sid Platten	17	17
Steve Langridge	14	14
Graham Beetles	13	13
Steve Foster	13	13
David Grainge	13	13
Stan Kelley	10	10
Harry Bracher	9	9
Roger Bukin	9	9
Phil Greenwood	7	7
Damien Turley	7	7



**FIRST TIMERS...** New captain Roger Butcher (left) made his first presentation to first-time winner Michael Bench. He collected the Spring Plate and four bottles – along with Group 1 winner Gwyn Ellis and Group 2 winner Robert Pegg (right).

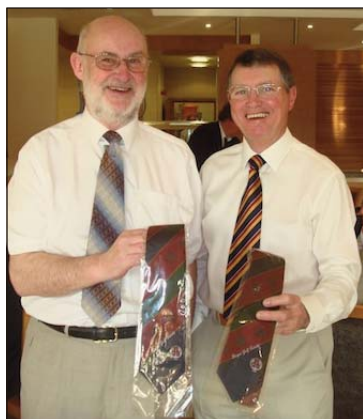
**Brookmans or Brokeman's Park?**  
**SURPRISE STORY BACK PAGE**



## ECLECTIC

THE eclectic will be run again this year with the proceeds being split between the winners and the Captain's charity.

Winner last year was Tim Dent (£60), followed by joint runners-up Phil Greenwold and captain Craig Caswell (£30 each).



**TIED UP... to Micheal Abrahams (left) and Eric Brown, brandishing their ties after joining our Society at Ashridge. Watch out though because they both scored rather well.**

## £115 START FOR CHARITY

CAPTAIN Roger Butcher raised £115 at Ashridge, much of which came via 'fine of the day' being £1 per blob.

Roger explained that his chosen charity is "Grove House", a hospice based in St Albans which provides quality care and support for those with cancer or life-threatening illness.



**TRIPLE WINNER..** Already laden with winning wine, Michael Bench, who has never previously won anything, went on to draw the ticket for a free day at the next venue.

## IT'S A KNOCKOUT!

Draw for the **SINGLES and PAIRS** knockout championships will take place at Brookman's Park Thursday April 4. So if you haven't done so already then get your entry in fast.



The last few entries will be taken at Brookman's Park, but make life easier for yourself (and me) by entering **right now** - either by email-

ing 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.benegogolfsociety.org.uk](http://www.benegogolfsociety.org.uk) together with the draw.

*Stan*

# BROOKMAN'S PARK



SIX hundred years ago the area now covered by the village of Brookmans Park consisted of two manor houses - "Brokemans" owned by John Brokeman, and "More Hall" owned by the More family.

In 1500 More Hall was occupied by Sir John More, judge and father to Sir Thomas More the chancellor executed by Henry VIII in 1535.

By 1786 "Brokemans" had become Brookmans Manor, now owned by the Gaussen family. And two generations later Robert William Gaussen bought the adjoining More Hall to add vast amounts of land, plus he built a grand new manor

house (pictured below).

On his death the Brookmans estate passed to his son Robert George Gaussen. In 1891 he bought a yacht and while cruising he learned the horrible news that the great Manor House had been completely destroyed. It was accidentally burned down by decorator wielding a blowlamp on the outside of the house.

Alas, Mr Gaussen never rebuilt the mansion, but instead converted the stable block

into a smaller manor house where the family continued to live until the estate was sold for development of new houses in 1923.

But the houses weren't selling so when London & North Eastern Railway built a new station at Brookman's Park in 1926, with direct services to Kings Cross and Broad Street, the 18 hole parkland golf course was built to attract buyers for those new houses.

And the new manor house? Well that got converted again - into what became today's club house.

You could say the stable doors have been well and truly bolted!



## Thursday April 4

Golf Club Road, Brookman's Park, Hatfield, AL9 7AT

**Pro: IAN JELLEY Tel: 01707 652487**

**ENTRIES** Soon as poss (**Limit of 36 players**). Email or ring Stan Kelley on 01992 586280 (*Mobile 07702 363611*)

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

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

1st tee reserved from 9am. Play from yellow tees as usual.

**COST: Pegged to just £50 for the fifth year running**, inclusive of raffle, Ball Sweep, waitress service and prize

table and Eclectic. *Plus* coffee and bacon rolls on arrival, and two-course luncheon.

**BUGGIES:** £20 per round. Trolleys £3. Be quick if you are wanting a buggy because they only have three.

**HOW TO GET THERE:** Brookman's Park is located off the A1000 Great North Road, one mile north of Potters Bar (M25 junct 24).

**Going from Hertford:** Take the Essendon road and continue right through to the A1000. Turn left towards Potters Bar, then first turning right, signposted Brookman's Park golf club.



**GRANDSTAND FINISH... the 18th green, overlooked by a grand cedar**