

The WGC Spring Meeting was held at Ladbroke GC

# LADBROOK PARK GOLF CLUB

## Warwickshire Captains



AT LEAST THE RAIN'S STOPPED



**Thursday 9th  
May 2013**

*There was a wonderful welcome for our members from the Ladbroke GC members and staff*

*Although someone in the artistic dept. had some pious hopes about the weather – it turned out to be very windy with a fair amount of rain through the afternoon! However the conditions did nothing to diminish our enjoyment for the day.*

## *Spring Meeting*

The Spring Meeting is very much anticipated for two main reasons : it heralds in the start to a new WGC season, and this year we all had the pleasure of meeting and playing on Ladbroke's fine course, complete with new features, particularly new ponds on the 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> holes.

Graham Pielowe represents Ladbroke on our Council and he and the Club at large made sure David Williamson had a relatively easy task to set up the Shotgun Four-Ball competition together with admirable and friendly services in the Bar and the Dining Room.

**104 members attended and our day started in the best possible way by meeting up with old friends in the clubhouse for registration and lunch.**



*As usual David Williamson had undertaken the nitty gritty tasks of planning and executing the admin for the Meeting year on year – ably assisted, of course by Alan Spalding.*

*Alan sorts out the paperwork for Phil Croft and others*



*Spring Meeting*



*Last Year's Captain, Barry, thought he could relax and completely enjoy his day without having to be involved – not so, Barry was asked to give Grace but fortunately his filofax of sample Graces was at hand for consultation!!*

*In the background is Brian Sedgwick who has been absent from our meetings having been resident in Charente Maritimes for several years – welcome back Brian!*



*The welcoming bar and dining room – John Starmer has his usual “pint in hand”*

*Spring Meeting*



*More of the congenial bar – with stalwarts of Kenilworth, Mike Carrick and Alan Pulham*



*Our new Match Manager, John Loynton, is already looking forward to the first match of the season against Worcester (at Edgbaston) - seen here with John Pritchard (who entered the competition with Bernard Smith as the "Coventry Earlsdon Elders")*

*Spring Meeting*



*Multi winners of the Autumn Meeting, Nigel Metcalfe and Gordon Williamson are here just to enjoy their day. Watch out for this “hot pair” at the Autumn meeting at Walmley at year end!*

*Our excellent Treasurer, Ron Saywell and his golf/bridge/social mate Walter Hogarth who confirmed their performance today did not reach their usual high standards!!*



*Spring Meeting*



*The Ladbrook President had good reason to be pleased with the outcome of the day.*



*Graham Pielowe, our Ladbrooke Council Member, was very much involved to make sure all local matters went smoothly.*

*Spring Meeting*

**And the results!**

**Our Captain Robert Kemp was delighted to present the day's prizes as follows:**



*In third place on a count-back were John Grant and Ron Ridgen (Robin Hood)*



*In 2<sup>nd</sup> place with 36 points were Mike Hughes and George Whitehouse Harborn)*



*And in 1<sup>st</sup> place with 37 points were Steve Stephenson and Jeff Hemming from Ladbrook*

**Nearest to the Pin – on the 5<sup>th</sup> hole**

This green is difficult to find in fair conditions but with rain and the strong and variable wind to contend with, plus the added pressure of NTP to play for, it was a formidable task just to make the green! John Butler was declared the winner, having played a gentle, faded 6 iron into the LHS of the green which miraculously finished just 10 feet or so from the pin – he missed the put for a 2 by a country mile!!



*As John was the photographer for the day, nobody volunteered to take the NTP presentation – this one was taken in 1956 on the Buckingham course where John was junior, when the dress code stipulated ties should be worn!!!*

**Everyone agreed that it was a splendid day in spite of the weather interfering along the way with wind and rain to test the golf concentration.**



**The Meal was memorable**

*And a reminder of the excellent menu and food provided by the Ladbrook Chef and kitchen staff.*

*Warwickshire Captains Dinner*

Trio of Fish Dishes  
Salmon Terrine ,Lobster & Sweet Chilli Cake  
Crayfish & Prawn Marie Rose  
Served with Crusty Bread

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Tournedos Rossini  
Fillet Steak topped with Homemade Liver Parfait  
Served on a Crispy Crouton  
Finished with a Red Wine Sauce

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Crème Brulee  
Dressed with a Brandy Snap Basket  
Filled with Rhubarb Ice Cream  
& spring Soft berries

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Fowlers of Earlswood Cheeses

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Coffee & Homemade Cookies

**Ladbroke Park Golf Club**



*Looking down the first fairway from the Clubhouse*

### **The Foundation of Ladbroke Park**

The Club called a General Meeting on 29th May 1908, to present plans furnished by Messrs. Chamberlain, King and Jones for a new clubhouse, according to a report in the *Birmingham Gazette*. Its facilities included a club room, ladies' tea room and dining rooms, smoke room, bar, locker room, lavatories and cloakroom. There were also two billiard tables. A Miss Wheatley of Penn Lane, Hockley Heath undertook the catering, for which she required twenty-four hours notice in writing.

Mr RT. Byrne had accepted the presidency of the Club and presented The President's Challenge Cup for competition. A second cup was presented by a Mr. P. Kellett and a medal by Mr. WG. Newman. A draft of the club rules and regulations was circulated for approval. By the end of the year there were 204 members and forty-two ladies.

The first Annual General Meeting was held at the end of March 1909. The auditors reported that a satisfactory start had been made, the balance sheet showing a healthy situation. The number of lady members had risen to fifty. New greens had been laid and it was expected that the course would be ready by the end of May. The clubhouse was under construction and members were asked to subscribe at least a £1 share towards the cost of £1,400.

Mr RT Byrne was formally elected president, holding that office until 1914,

Mr E Spencer, Captain, Mr. WG Stewart, Honorary Treasurer and Mr. HC. Church, Honorary Secretary. He remained in office for some time, his residence listed in *Nisbet's Golf Year Book 1912* as Wake Green Road, Moseley.

Oscar Bowen opened the new clubhouse on 19th March 1910. The ceremony was followed by lunch and a match between teams selected by the captain and the secretary, the latter's team winning fifteen points to twelve. After the match there was a supper, "a splendid spread", at which toasts were given, followed by a smoking concert. The *Stratford-Upon-Avon Herald* reported that "proceedings were most enjoyable and successful".



*The old Clubhouse (circa 1950) that many of us remember with affection. In 1998 the buildings were substantially refurbished to what we know today*

*Spring Meeting*



*And as seen today*