



# Members Newsletter

April 2010

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## Captain's Comments

The first thing to say this month is how sad we were all were to hear of the death of Ron Welch, and we send our condolences to his family. Mike Parsons wrote an article which appeared in the Somerset County Gazette, and I have reproduced this article elsewhere in the newsletter for people who may have missed it.

March was a much better month for golf and the course seemed to be well used for various events and competitions. For several weeks, the green keeping staff located tee markers on grass alongside the winter mats and feedback from members seemed very positive to this arrangement. But summer has now arrived – official!! It must be true because winter rules are over and we are now back on full tees.

Enjoy the better weather and enjoy the golf and the new facilities!!! – John Beer



## Recent Results

### *Who's Who*

#### Seniors' Section 2010

Seniors Captain – Bob Pascoe  
Seniors Vice-Captain – Rod Gain  
Hon Secretary – David Evans  
Hon Treasurer – Alex Morrice  
Members Representatives –  
- Pat Francis  
- Mike Allen  
- Peter Cole

### Cyril Hayes Memorial Trophy - 17<sup>th</sup> April 2010: Winners (115 points)

- Angie Warne
- Mark Bushen
- Paddy Vearncombe
- Chris West

### Stan Cleasby Memorial Trophy Shotgun Winners -18<sup>th</sup> April: (60.8 points)

- John Paterson
- Paddy Vearncombe
- Kevin Parker

### Dimor Cup (Seniors) 13<sup>th</sup> April

- Martin Watson (net 69)

## Reports

### *Forthcoming Competitions*

#### APRIL

Mon 19<sup>th</sup> – Ladies Friendly vs Oake  
 Weds 21<sup>st</sup> – Ladies Medal  
 Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> - Seniors vs Cannington(H)  
 Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> - Sun 25<sup>th</sup> – Social Weekend  
 Sat 24<sup>th</sup> – PGA pro-am  
 Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> – ‘B’ team vs Brean (A)  
 Sun 25<sup>th</sup> – ‘B’ team vs Weston-Super-Mare (H)  
 Tues 27<sup>th</sup> Seniors vs Enmore (H)  
 Tues 27<sup>th</sup> – Somerset Captains vs Cornwall Captains  
 Weds 28<sup>th</sup> – Ladies Pairs aggregate  
 Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> – Somerset Bowl vs Orchardleigh (at Wheathill)  
 Thurs 29th - Seniors vs Axe Cliff (H)

#### MAY

Sat 1<sup>st</sup> – Bob Peilow Trophy  
 Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> – Ladies Stableford  
 Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> – ‘A’ team vs Orchardleigh(H)  
 Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> – Juniors AGM & medal  
 Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> – Ladies Grandmothers Trophy  
 Tues 4<sup>th</sup> - Seniors vs Long Sutton (A)  
 Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> - Seniors vs Kingweston (H)  
 Sat 8<sup>th</sup> – Ladies League match vs Wheathill (A)  
 Sat 8<sup>th</sup> – ‘A’ team vs Oake Manor (H)  
 Sat 8<sup>th</sup> – ‘B’ team vs Frome (A)  
 Mon 10<sup>th</sup> - Veterans vs Vivary (H)  
 Tues 11<sup>th</sup> - Seniors Cole Cup  
 Weds 12th – Ladies Open  
 Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> - Seniors medal

## Captain's Report

Congratulations to James Popham who has captained Somerset under 18's on Friday against Gloucestershire at Bath. James also captained Somerset in the annual four county U18 tournament between Somerset, Dorset, Devon and Cornwall at Bude and North Cornwall Golf Club on the 6th, 7th & 8th April.

The Avalon League matches have started and the "B" team is currently on top of Division 6 (with 25 points after 3 games). The team started with a great win away at Minehead (3-2, 11 points vs 4 points); and this was followed by a creditable performance away against Weston-super-Mare (lost 3-2, 6 points vs 8 points), and then a 3-2 win against Brean.

The club won their first round tie in the SGU Seniors Rose Bowl on Wednesday. The team beat Brean at Minehead (3 ½ -1 ½ ). Every game went to 17th, 18th or extra holes. The club will now play either Enmore in the next round.

The first round of the Somerset Bowl will take place on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> April. We have been drawn against Orchardleigh to be played at Wheathill.

I was delighted to join the club captains from Taunton & Pickering, Oake and Enmore to play in the winter invitation at Taunton & Pickering in March. I have invited the captain for Taunton & Pickering to be my guest in the past-captain's invitation on 16th May.

Congratulations to our team which lost by 1 point in the SGU golf quiz: Mark Coleman, Nigel Contreras, Stevie Foster, Chris Rossiter

We send our best wishes to a number of club members who have not been well recently, and we send our condolences to Steve Welch, Ron's widow Sybil, and the rest of the family. Several members and club officers attended Ron's cremation and reception at the golf club.

## Lady Captain's Report

The lady's section would like to say how sad they were to hear of the death of Ron Welch, our club's co-owner, and we have passed on our condolences to the Welch family.

The ladies section since the last meeting has been very active. The weather has greatly improved, main tees opened up and we have already played four qualifiers.

In the "Mail on Sunday" Competition, we were defeated by Burnham and Berrow, but the girls fought hard and it was the home advantage and knowledge of the greens that enabled Burnham's success. In the National Daily Mail foursomes Beryl Richards and Shirley Gooding had a great first round win 7 and 5 against Minehead but lost narrowly in the second round to Pickering this weekend.

We now look forward to our league and friendly matches, which start next week. Finally we would like to wish Phyll Powell and Val Russell a speedy recovery and hope to see them at the club very soon.

## Seniors Report

It's good to report membership continues to grow, albeit slowly.

Our competitions are getting good support, and results are as follows.

March 2nd. 40 entries. Div. 1 A. Edwards-39pts. Div. 2 M. Watson-40pts.

March 18th. 43 entries Div. 1 A. Edwards-43pts. Div. 2 J. Tilden-38pts.

The first round of the Somerset Seniors Rosebowl was played against Brea at Minehead, with a win for Taunton Vale 3.5 - 1.5 The friendly versus Cheddington Court was postponed due to the condition of their course. Hopefully this will be rearranged. On April 7th. the home fixture against Vivary Park was a win for Taunton Vale 4.5 - 2.5, a successful start.

April 13th. is Dimor Cup day and we have a full entry sheet. At the senior section Committee meeting the timing of this competition was discussed, and the decision was to play the event in May.

The seniors would convey their condolences to the Welch family at this time

## Juniors Section

Congratulations to James Popham on his appointment as Captain of the Somerset U-18's team. Unfortunately, both of our Juniors matches have had to be re-arranged but we hope to play them in the near future. We have now set up a "Juniors Committee" consisting of the Junior Captain Ros McKechnan, the club captain, Junior Chairman and Junior Organiser – watch this space for more details, including the Junior coaching sessions which were postponed at Easter.

## Vice-captain's report re Musgrove Cup

All the holes now have sponsors! Thanks to Paul Evans of Rensburg Fund Management and Tony Dunn of Dunn, Simpson & Co. Solicitors as well as those already confirmed. Nearest the pin on all the par 3 holes have also been filled. (Thanks to Mel Tolchard and others).

League of Friends: I have been in contact with Hester Crowe and Judy Fox. They have suggested a shopping list of 2 x Oxygen Saturation monitors (£1100 each), a Carbon Dioxide monitor (£3000) and projectors (£550 each). There is also a need to help in the cost of producing booklets to the bereaved families (£100-£200).

Golf Clubs: We have received 16 positive replies so far and have sent out reciprocal vouchers- many thanks to the office staff for their help in this and to the club itself. I have also received complimentary rounds of golf from Trethorne and Bowood which will go into the Auction.

Tee times are filling up well with non- members – need to advertise shortly to our own members! All sections have been very positive and have agreed to help as before. Many thanks to all sections, for example the Seniors are prepared to supply starters and the Juniors are prepared to organise the putting comp.

We continue to make progress with the auction - Bowood and Trethorne have donated complimentary rounds of golf. We have tickets from Somerset, Hants., Lancs and Warwick Cricket clubs; a signed bat from Alec Stewart, Yeovil Town tickets, Exeter Chiefs Rugby tickets, Blackburn Rovers autographed photo, Cut & Style at Sarah Hodge, 2 framed Constance Milburn prints. I will continue to try other avenues in the coming weeks. The club has also secured some support from Butcombe Brewery that we are in the process of firming up.

April newsletter ready to go out this week

### *Items Bought by the Social committee since club opened:*

- 8 Ball washers
- £1500 towards marquee
- £1000 for trees
- Wooden raffle drum
- Shelter at back of 9<sup>th</sup>
- £400 towards section computers
- Shoe Cleaner
- £250 for Juniors
- Lights for decoration
- Cyril's bench on 14<sup>th</sup> tee
- Crib Tables
- Score Board on wall outside clubhouse
- £200 for Seniors
- Entertainment for members
- Drinks Fountain near 4th tee
- Two new benches (4<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> tees)




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*e-mail us on*  
[tvqcnewsletter@talktalk.net](mailto:tvqcnewsletter@talktalk.net)  
*with your comments and ideas and get your friends to sign up!*

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## Social Committee

The Cyril Hayes Trophy event was a great success last Saturday; a glorious day for golf followed by a quiz and a Mr & Mrs event. John Beer included a resume of the background to the social committee culminating in the current provision of a water fountain and the two new benches, examples of what the members provide for the benefit of the members. Both the new benches and the new water fountain are now in place. Please note that the drinks machine between the 3<sup>rd</sup> green and the 4<sup>th</sup> tee will shortly be removed – but the drinks machine at the club house will remain. We were delighted that Val Russel was able to join us to present the prizes having been released from hospital the day before the event..

The Social committee has agreed it would like to dedicate the new drinking fountain to Ron Welch, with the agreement of Steve. We can do a plaque accordingly.

The social weekend away is looming, looks a great programme, thanks to Jacky. We will look to book next year's event early into the Autumn.

### Summer Social (Ronniemead)

We are planning a BBQ / music trio for the 10th July, Due to the recent death of Ron Welch we will check what the club and family plans are for this, in case they want to do something else / different.

### Notice board

The main notice board for the social Committee will be the one outside the spikes bar, we will now have the smaller board in the foyer, outside the office for some detail. The junior section needed a larger board sited outside the changing area.

### Forthcoming Events - 2010

<b>23<sup>rd</sup> / 25<sup>th</sup> April</b>	SOCIAL WEEKEND AWAY St Pierre, Chepstow
<b>10<sup>th</sup> July</b>	SUMMER SOCIAL/ RONNIEMEAD BBQ. Refreshments Entertainment - "Footloose" Piano and Disco
<b>7<sup>th</sup> August</b>	MUSGROVE CUP

## Handicap Committee

Competitions started on the main tees with a monthly medal on April 3<sup>rd</sup> (91 entrants), good start to the season; P J Signs on April 4th attracted 59 entries; Stableford on Apr 10th had 77 entries and Medal on Apr 11th entries.

Unfortunately we ran the County Golfer competition alongside the monthly medal but only had 22 entries so we decided to run it again alongside the stableford on Apr 10th with those who had entered on the 3rd playing free but unfortunately we couldn't get the 25 entries req'd. So for this year the competition will be scrapped due to lack of interest and monies returned to competitors. We will re-look at comp next year and decide if it's worth running anymore.

The Draw for the Cyril Hayes has been done and is posted around the club, we have 25 teams of 3 men and a lady .

The Stan Cleasby on Sunday 18th is also almost full with 18 teams so far with only two more slots to fill although a team on each hole is quite satisfactory for the competition.

The Bob Peilow is also at the moment looking promising although I have instructed the pro

shop to push for entries over the coming weeks to try and fill as soon as possible, we have also today put a notice for this up in the Ladies Changing rooms as we inadvertently overlooked this.

A set of local rules is currently in the process of being re-worded and retyped and will be posted in both changing rooms and in one of the exterior cabinets for visitors before the weekend.

All future Texas Scramble Competitions irrespective of winter rules or not, if the ball you choose to play lies on any closely mown area thru the green i.e. Fairways, fringe around green etc. fellow team members must place their ball within one club length rather than dropping however if the ball you choose lies in rough, semi rough etc. then fellow team members must drop within 1 club

***Don't forget - you can check out club results and other news on the Sport South West news website which is:***

***<<http://www.sportsouthwest.co.uk>>***

## TRIBUTE TO RON WELCH

"Taunton Vale Golf Club was this week mourning the death of co-owner Ron Welch, of Creech St Michael, who died at [Musgrove Park Hospital](#) on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April aged 85.

The club was very much Ron's idea. He once explained: "After 40 years farming I decided it was sensible to diversify from arable farming into something different, and a golf course seemed the ideal answer."

Planning consent was given in early 1990 and work started that April.

Entering into partnership with neighbour Mead Loxton, most of the construction of the nine- and 18-hole courses, designed by ex-tour pro Jon Payn, was completed by the two farmers.

Opening day was July 22, 1991, and already 200 members had signed up.

Over the years there have been many changes to enhance both courses and the clubhouse, resulting in the current healthy membership of 650.

The club's course manager, Ron's son, Stephen, said this week: "Living adjacent to the 18-hole course and seeing it mature over the years obviously filled my father with pride, but the sight of so many new friendships being formed by people playing the course was perhaps his greatest joy."

Born in 1925, Ron's parents farmed at Bickenhall before moving to Creech in 1937.

He was educated at Hatch Beauchamp and North Town schools, and Huish's Grammar School, and worked at the Avimo engineering company before becoming a full-time farmer in his late teens.

A man of many talents and interests, he enjoyed restoring vintage motorcycles and had a keen love of music, playing his electric organ until ill health prevented him.

Ron was also a great supporter of the Somerset county cricket, but motor racing was his real passion – he attended every British Grand Prix right up until 2008 and went to many European race venues.

Ron married Sybil Pursey in 1947 and the couple had three children – Sally, Christine and Stephen. He was extremely proud also of his three grandchildren, Andrew, Catherine and Bonnie."

## TAUNTON VALE GOLF CLUB - LOCAL RULES (APRIL 2010)

00-01	RELIEF FOR EMBEDDED BALL	<p><b>Relief for Embedded Ball</b> Rule 25-2 provides relief, without penalty, for a ball embedded in its own pitch-mark in any <b><u>closely-mown</u></b> area <i>through the green</i>. On the <i>putting green</i>, a ball may be lifted and damage caused by the impact of a ball may be repaired (Rules 16-1b and c).</p> <p>When <b><u>'Winter Rules'</u></b> are in operation under Local Rule, relief for an embedded ball may be taken <b><u>anywhere</u></b> <i>through the green</i>;</p> <p><b><i>"Through the green, a ball that is embedded in its own pitch-mark in the ground may be lifted, without penalty, cleaned and dropped as near as possible to where it lay but not nearer the hole. The ball when dropped must first strike a part of the course through the green.</i></b></p> <p><b>Exceptions:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A player may not take relief under this Local Rule if the ball is embedded in sand in an area that is not closely mown.</li> <li>2. A player may not take relief under this Local Rule if it is clearly unreasonable for him to make a <i>stroke</i> because of interference by anything other than the condition covered by this Local Rule.</li> </ol> <p><b>PENALTY FOR BREACH OF LOCAL RULE:</b> <b>Match play – Loss of hole; Stroke play – Two strokes."</b></p>
05-01	ABNORMAL GROUND CONDITIONS	If a ball lies in or a player's stance is affected by wildlife excrement (this does not include rabbit droppings), the player may obtain relief by means of a free drop in line with rule 25-1, Abnormal Ground Conditions.
06-01	LADIES TEES	For any Mixed Greensomes or Texas Scramble Competitions where the red tees are situated behind the men's yellow tees and Ladies are playing off the <u>Men's Stroke Index</u> , Ladies will now be able to tee off from the yellow tees.
08-01	MEASURING DEVICES	<p><b>Rule 14-3 states that the use of Distance Measuring Devices is not allowed during a 'stipulated round'. PENALTY FOR BREACH OF RULE 14-3: Disqualification.</b></p> <p><b>However, Rule 14-3 also has the following note:</b></p> <p><b>Note: The <i>Committee</i> may make a Local Rule allowing players to use devices that measure or gauge distance only.</b></p> <p><b>The TVGC Handicap &amp; Competitions Committee has made the following Local Rule:</b></p> <p><b>For all play at this course, a player may obtain distance information by using a device that measures distance.</b></p> <p><b>PLEASE NOTE: The use of Distance Measuring Devices may or may not be allowed at other Golf Clubs. It is the responsibility of the player to confirm whether or not such devices are allowed when playing in competitions at other clubs.</b></p>
08-02	Relief from drainage channels.	If a ball lies in a drainage channels, the player may obtain relief by means of a free drop in line with rule 25-1, Abnormal Ground Conditions. Relief may not be taken if the player's stance is within the drainage channel.
09-01	Maximum frequency for returning Supplementary Scores	The English Golf Union states the following; Unless the <i>Affiliated Club</i> decides otherwise, a <i>Member</i> is limited to the return of one <i>Supplementary Score</i> per week. The TVGC Handicap & Competitions Committee has decided to make it a local rule to allow 1 <i>Supplementary Score</i> per week.