



The Northenden Golf Club.

Captains Log!

January 2010.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Happy New Year, wishing you all health, happiness, and prosperity for 2010.

In keeping with one of my objectives I undertook to regularly update fellow members with a cross section of reports from your captains 'perspective' without in any way infringing or imitating that marvellous publication 'Candid Cameron'. Any attempt at such would be folly!

By the end of January the new website should be functional and publications such as this can be uploaded for ease of access and wider consumption. To coincide with the launch of that site, and in readiness for the fast approaching season, Anthony Milner has kindly undertaken to resume publication of a club newsletter to which all club 'departments' will contribute, enhancing communication further.

Can I start on a welfare note and wish Steve Darby, our much valued club 'handyman', a speedy recovery from his broken leg suffered on Christmas Eve as he vaulted a low wall in icy conditions. Dave Garrard hasn't been in the best of health over the festive season and I wish him all the best in the coming weeks. Please let me know of any member suffering ill health or distress.

The last few weeks aside, it's been a pleasure to compete in a wide variety of club competitions, meeting and playing with acquaintances old and new, coming so close to victory on several occasions, so close in fact that our esteemed handicap committee have 'done me' 2 shots to 13.5 – thanks! It is my intention to play at varied times on competition days and leave you to fill in the blanks – a true test of how many mates I've got! On that vein, the Captain and Pro sheet is up in the locker room and Grant and I invite any matchplay challenge. The only rule is that the losers donate £10.00 per team to my charities, Prostate Cancer and Francis House! The competitions are scheduled for a Sunday morning, tee off 10:00hrs, though additional and alternative dates could be accommodated should you fancy your luck outside of those published!

The seasonal social events passed in a whirl! Amongst those I attended were the Lady Captains Drive-in, Christmas Draw, Children's Christmas Party (free this year), Christmas Day Dinner (a magnificent day), and New Years Eve Dinner. I'd ask you all to support Alexi and his social committee in their endeavours on the social front – more of future plans later.

My particular thanks go to Past President and Captain, John Barker for his kind invitation to his 'Gentlemen's Imbibing Evening' early in December, a somewhat surreal evening which saw this event at one end of the club, a Bridge Drive at the other and a funeral wake in the middle, a night on which our esteemed member and Past Captain, Cammie Stewart, suffered a 'bitter induced' loss of balance at the conclusion of the evening and fell down the stairs, though fortunately no long term damage was suffered though I'm informed that Mrs Monty Milner was less than impressed with Montys lateness that night!

On the subject of 'socials', Alexi (social) plans a Burns supper on the 23rd January so keep your ear to the ground for more details. Widespread publication has been challenging for him due to the inclement weather in recent weeks, leading to few visitors to the club. I can vouch for the quality of socials planned for the year, including a themed 'casino' night, St Georges Day charity golfing event, various events surrounding the World Cup, and the reintroduction of a formal annual Dinner Dance in October. Preliminary plans are in place for events incorporating live music of varying genres and appeal!

Just keep your eyes open for announcements in the clubhouse, newsletters, diary and website.

Your Lady Captain, Judith, and I are jointly supporting Prostate Cancer and Francis House Charities this year. For those who don't know, one of the major charity events is the entry of a 'Team NGC' in the 10k Great Manchester Run on Sunday 16th May 2010. There are about 5 places left (of the 20 reserved) to join the team, so come on, have an objective to get fit, lose weight, and support charity. If you're interested please contact Phil Adlem, team manager, details in the diary, and join the team!

On the business front, the drive for new members continues; please introduce your friends, colleagues, and contacts to our club. The offer of 15 months membership for 12 (from now and with conditions) has been agreed again this year and represents an ideal opportunity to recruit new members, just ask in the office for details. I'm sure a thaw will kick in soon and make the course more playable!

Work on the new (additional) trolley shed will recommence in the next few days.

I'm particularly delighted to report to you that the Chairman, John Collins, in conjunction with Alison, has introduced a weekly meeting for all department 'heads' commencing in the New Year, and at which forward planning will be encouraged together with improved inter-departmental communication and efficiencies.

Enough for now, don't want to run to more than two pages so see you all throughout the coming months. In the meantime, thanks for your continued support of NGC, particularly in the face of the worst weather conditions for over 3 decades.

Ian Hynes. Captain NGC.