



## Captain's Comments



We are now well into the season and I hope you are enjoying your golf at Hilton Park.

The weather was wonderful in April which allowed Stuart and his green-keeping team to work hard on the courses. There was some damage to the greens but this has been treated and they are now well on the road to recovery. The work on the 13<sup>th</sup> hole on the Hilton has been completed and the hole was fully operational for the gents' medal on Saturday 28 May. The new ditch proved its worth during the recent heavy rain.

We have postponed replacing the carpets in the lounges until the end of the year when we plan to lay the new ones at the same time along with the necessary refurbishment. In the meantime, new carpets have

been laid in the board room and office areas upstairs and the work to upgrade the ladies toilets is nearly completed.

A lot of work has been done on the Hilton Park website to make it more useful and up-to-date. For example, you can now go online for the knock-out competition draws, check the dates of visiting parties, and read the tweets about course closure and related information. You can also see results of team matches. I would encourage you to log on regularly.

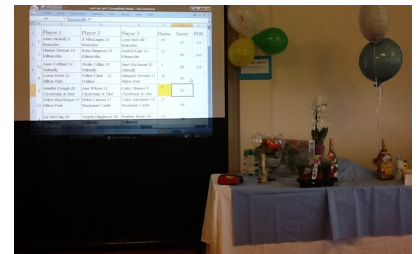
The weather for the Ladies Open Day on 1<sup>st</sup> June was wet and windy but most of the 39 teams played and managed to enjoy themselves despite the conditions. Congratulations to the winning team of Pat Syme, June Lockhart, and Sheena Gardner. £600 was raised for the Help for Heroes Charity. Unfortunately the Gents also had a wet day for their Invitational on 18<sup>th</sup> June. This was won by Alexander McIntyre and John Green. Well done



*The completed ditch, 13<sup>th</sup> hole on the Hilton*

to them. The new projector and screen were used at both events to display a rolling leaderboard which provided an interesting focal point. It is available for use at other similar competitions.

The winners of the Senior Open Texas Scramble on 15<sup>th</sup> June were Messrs Billings, Hunter and Dalgetty. Congratulations to all the winners.



*The new projector and screen in action*

Martin Laird has had an excellent season so far including his tremendous win at Bay Hill where Arnold Palmer was waiting to congratulate him as he came off the 18<sup>th</sup> green. We are hoping he may find the time to visit Hilton Park when he comes over to play in the Scottish Open. However, this will depend on whether he has any free time in his busy schedule. In any event, we wish him all the best for the rest of the season and on his wedding which will take place after the Open.

Good golfing to you all.

Maida

## Work on the ditch at the 13<sup>th</sup>.



*Right side before work started.*



*Work underway on right side*



*Slab laying*

## Gordon's Challenge



Gordon Simpson, our General Manager, has become an Ambassador for Macmillan Cancer Support after his mum was diagnosed with cancer in 2010. He aims to raise awareness for the charity by volunteering at organized events, particularly golf days. However, Gordon is not only increasing charity awareness. On 19<sup>th</sup> June he took himself out of his comfortable golfing shoes and into a pair of trainers to run the Men's 10k in Glasgow.

Running is new to Gordon and although he is found the training quite a challenge, he completed the course in an excellent time of 55 minutes 11 seconds. So far he has raised in the region of £1350. There is still time to support Gordon by sponsoring his challenge in the proshop or online at

[www.justgiving.com/gordon-simpson](http://www.justgiving.com/gordon-simpson)



## Spiers Trophy – Centenary Year

The Spiers Trophy is one of the oldest inter-club events in the world still going strong after 100 years. The Trophy was gifted by AA Speirs of Elderslie Estates in 1911. He inaugurated the event to create 'a friendly and healthy' rivalry between clubs who had their courses on his land. The original silver trophy was destroyed by fire just over a year later. It is played annually by rotation at the four competing clubs: Hilton Park, Renfrew, Elderslie and Kilmalcolm.

Elderslie hosted the Centenary event this year on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June. It is a 'boggie' (bogey) competition which,

this year, was extended from the normal 6 man teams to teams of 12, including a lady and a junior. Elderslie won the trophy for a record 30<sup>th</sup> time, holding off a challenge from the holders, Renfrew. Unfortunately Hilton Park finished last.

Hilton Park are the hosts for next year and can revert to the original format or continue as this year.

### OPTICAL EXPRESS PRO GOLF TOUR

Paul McKechnie from Braid Hills Golf Centre won the 2<sup>nd</sup> Optical Express Pro Golf Tour event which was held at

Hilton Park on 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> May. He carded rounds of 64 and 71 to finish 3 shots ahead of the field.

The event ran smoothly, with the organizers thanking the club for their efforts to help golfing in Scotland

### LADIES AND JUNIOR GIRLS CHANGE IN HANDICAPPING

Please note there has been a change in Ladies and Junior Girls handicapping.

There is no longer a limit of 110 and, on completing three cards, ladies and junior girls can gain a handicap.

## Play Up on Par 3's

Calling a following group up on a par 3 speeds up play during a round. Make sure the following group knows your intention is to call them up once your group's members have reached the putting green. Continue to play the hole until all of your group are on the putting surface.

Mark all golf balls on the green, step to the side then gesture to the



following group to tee off. Return to your markers on the green and putt out. By the time your group has finished putting, the following group should either be ready to pitch to the green, putt or call the following group up.

## Coming Events

and

## Important Dates

Fraser of Allander: Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> July - *Please encourage friends from other clubs to take part too. It will make such a difference to the success of the day if we have a significant number of entries from other clubs.*

Championship Week: Monday 8<sup>th</sup> – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> August  
Finals Day: Sunday 14 August

Lady Past Captains Day: Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> August

Matchplay Competition Finals: Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August

Open Day: Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September

Gents	Alex Young	play round 4 by 24 July
	Past Captain	play quarter final by 3 July
	James Lothian	play round 4 by 10 July
	Ian Lavery	play round 4 by 10 July
Ladies	Paton Gardner	play round 5 by 17 July
	Yorke	play round 4 by 25 July
	Khyber Jug	play round 4 by 11 July
Mixed	Lady Anne	play round 4 by 11 July
	Pairman	play quarter final by 24 July