

# Mile End News Update

Members' Committee Newsletter

Summer 2015



## Mr Captain's Day 2015

Those preparing to play in this year's Captain's Day event who had viewed the BBC weather forecast could be forgiven for Googling "How to build an Ark". In the event the promised deluge never materialised and the scores were pretty good. An excellent score of 43 points meant that recently joined member Colin Wildblood topped the field and he is pictured above being presented with the winner's shield by 2015 Club Captain Peter Mader. Peter's guests enjoyed an excellent meal after the event and a 14 hole competition for ladies was won by Janet Bennett.

## Lady Captain's Day 2015

At the recent Lady Captain's Day, Past Ladies' Captain Janice Turner produced the best score braving a strong and chilly wind that made for trying conditions. She is pictured right being presented with the winner's shield by 2015 Lady Captain Amanda Ord-Dando. Amanda's guests enjoyed an excellent meal afterwards. Male members were invited to take part in a 14 hole competition. This was won by Ben Power with a great score of 36 points.



## JOHN WILSON CHARITY DAY

**SATURDAY 25TH JULY**

2015 Vice-Captain, Keith Evans, has chosen Hope House Children's Hospices as the beneficiary of this year's 'John Wilson' fund raising events. The main event, our John Wilson Day, is scheduled for Saturday 25th July. There will be a barbecue kindly sponsored by Mike Randall and a variety of other activities, details of which will be posted shortly on the notice boards in the foyer. Come along for a fun packed day and support this worthy local charity.

## Dinner Dance 2015

The Members' Committee have decided to change arrangements for our Annual Dinner-Dance and for the formalities surrounding the induction of new Captains. The date for the Dinner-Dance has been moved forward to the 12th September and the venue will be the Dining Rooms (formerly The Walls). Handover of Captaincies will now be part of the Annual Presentation Evening which takes place in early January. Details of the September event will be posted shortly.

## Countryfile

On an ornithological note, 12 of our 21 bird boxes have been occupied this spring by nesting birds. Unfortunately, 5 boxes have been raided by woodpeckers. The RSPB representative will be visiting the course in the next few weeks.

## Match Update

Mile End men were drawn to play Henlle and Aqualate in the Shropshire Inter-Club handicap league. Our opening fixture was at home to Henlle but unfortunately we lost this match 4 ½ to 1 ½. The return leg at Henlle was also lost 5 ½ to ½. Thankfully our fortunes changed as we enjoyed a well-earned 3-3 draw away at Aqualate recently. The return leg and final fixture of this year competition is to be played at home at the end of the month.

In between these matches a mixed friendly was played away at Lakeside. This has become a tradition over the last few years. Those who played enjoyed a fun day out and Lakeside's reputation for the quality of its food was further enhanced. Men's friendlies are scheduled for August against Arscott and Church Stretton, so please keep your eye on the sheets going up in July and put your names forward.

Finally, after almost 4 years as match organiser, I have decided not to stand for this position in 2016. I would just like to thank all those that have continued to support me and the club during my time in this position. If anyone is interested in putting themselves forward for next year please contact myself, the Captain or Vice-Captain. **Simon Hayman**



Jake Moreton who has been appointed Junior Captain for 2015.

## From the Senior Section

Our senior section continues to grow in numbers and the various teams and individuals representing the club have enjoyed a good deal of success. Nine team matches have been played against other clubs so far this season of which seven have been won. Entries to our Team Invitation event were down on previous years with some folk suggesting that the reason may be that we always seem to win! In an attempt to attract more entries next year our team cleverly allowed Market Drayton to score one more point than us on this occasion. In the National Seniors Team Classic, an away trip to Mid Yorks Golf Club in Round 2 led to a disappointing loss, whilst in the Pairs event a 1<sup>st</sup> Round win against The Shropshire has set up an away match against Wychwood Park.

**The Ladies Badger Trophy was halved.**

## Something to tell the grandkids

Past Captain and multi-award winning golf club thrower Paul Eke was one of 16 past and present members of Mile End who spent 3 days at Lytham-St-Annes recently. Standing on the 16<sup>th</sup> tee at St Annes Old Links he considered his options. The round thus far had not lived up to expectations. A number of wayward drives, approaches and of course chips had tested Paul's temperament. On more than one occasion the preliminary phases of club throwing had been evident but fortunately he had managed to control his emotions in those vital moments before launch and he had clung on to his club. Nevertheless, the fuse had been lit and, like Paul, it is quite short.

The 16<sup>th</sup> is a Par 3 which runs parallel to the perimeter fence of Blackpool Airport. Measuring just short of 200 yards the elevated green which slopes from front to back is protected by 6 pot bunkers. Fortunately the pin was at the back but it still presented quite a challenge. Paul's tee shot had some merits but unfortunately length was not amongst them. His ball landed some 40 yards short but a series of favourable bounces on the links turf saw it come to rest immediately in front of an intimidating bunker. The 'bump and run' option was not available, it required a chip. His playing partners looked on nervously, particularly his wife Angela who had found an adjacent bunker. Paul's epithet of 'Chip and Chuck' is well deserved and a club launched here could cause a major air traffic incident!

As usual, Paul's practise swings were smooth and graceful but we weren't fooled. He addressed the ball and, as usual, no sooner had his backswing travelled a few inches it was as though he had been tasered. Normally the ball would have come to rest either in the bunker or a nearby field but in this instance it arched onto the front of the green. His playing partners looked on with a mixture of astonishment and relief. Paul ran up onto the green excitedly. The ball was trundling very slowly but the greens at St Annes are fast – very fast. "Go on - go on" shouted Paul. When the ball was about 10 feet short of the cup, and by now hardly moving, Paul's cries changed from "Go on" to a somewhat optimistic "Get in". After what seemed an age the ball finally fell into the hole like an exhausted marathon runner crossing the finishing line. "A two" shouted Paul in case we had lost count.

When my grandchildren ask; "Grandad; have you seen Uluru at sunrise; were you there when England won the World Cup; were you there when the Berlin Wall came down?", I shall answer "No, but I did once see Paul Eke chip in!" **Ron Pugh**